

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT: BARKER/KARPIS GANG  
BREMER KIDNAPPING**

**FILE NUMBER: 7-576**

**SECTION : SUB A - Section 19**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

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## Five More Sentenced For Bremer Kidnaping

**Volney Davis Gets Life; Others  
5 to 20 Years Each**

ST. PAUL, June 7 (AP). — Federal Judge M. M. Joyce today sentenced five men to the penitentiary—one of them for life—as Department of Justice agents added a new chapter to their roundup of the kidnapers of Edward G. Bremer early in 1934. Only Alvin Karpis, leader of the Barker-Karpis gang named as the abductors of Bremer, had eluded capture as Volney Davis got a life term at Leavenworth and four confederates from five to twenty years each.

Arthur ("Doc") Barker and Oliver Berg received life sentences a month ago. Byron Bolton, who pleaded guilty to the charges against him in the \$200,000 kidnaping, remains to be sentenced. He was a government witness against his fellow conspirators.

His capture made known in Chicago only last Saturday, Davis was brought here by plane for speedy arraignment and entered a plea of guilty. Sentence was imposed on him at the same time as terms of twenty years each in Leavenworth Penitentiary were meted out to Harold Alderton, in whose home at Bensenville, Ill., Bremer was held prisoner, and Elmer Farmer, Bensenville tavern keeper who aided the gang when they guarded the St. Paul banker.

The two money-changers, John J. ("Boss") McLaughlin, former Chicago politician, and James J. Wilson, onetime medical student at Northwestern University, received five-year sentences. Wilson's term will be served at the industrial reformatory at Chillicothe, Ohio. McLaughlin, Alderton, Farmer and Wilson were convicted by the same jury which convicted Barker and Berg.

Judge Joyce told McLaughlin in explanation of his sentence "You are an old man, and I have no desire to add anything to your unhappiness. You also are suffering from diabetes." McLaughlin, sixty-eight, engineered the changing of the Bremer ransom money for other bills.

Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Egan .....
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
Mr. Harbo .....
Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Schilder .....
Mr. Schilder .....
Mr. Shabb .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....



Pittsburgh Post-Gazette  
June 8, 1935

P. O. Box 1987  
Pittsburgh, Pa.

# BREMER KIDNAPER GIVEN LIFE TERM

## Four Others in Affair Get Long Sentences.

**ST. PAUL, June 7.**—(United News.)—Volney Davis, Edward G. Bremer kidnaper captured last week in Chicago, today was sentenced to life imprisonment as he and four others implicated in the \$200,000 abduction were brought into Federal court for sentence. He pleaded guilty.

John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, chief money changer in the kidnaping and former Illinois political power, was sentenced to five years. Harold Alderton and Elmer Farmer wever sentenced to 20 years, and James J. Wilson to five years.

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Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E.A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Quinn  
Miss Gandy

## 5 MORE JAILED IN BREMER CASE

ST. PAUL, June 7 (AP).—Federal Judge Joyce today sentenced five men to the penitentiary—one of them for life—as kidnapers of Edward G. Bremer, banker, and year.

Only Alvin Karpis, leader of the Barker-Karpis gang named as Bremer's abductors, had eluded capture.

Volney Davis got a life term at Leavenworth. Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg received life sentences a month ago. Byron Bolton, who pleaded guilty in the \$200,000 kidnaping, remains to be sentenced. He turned Government witness.

Twenty-year terms were meted out to Harold Alderton, in whose home at Bensenville, Ill.

The two money-changers—John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, former Chicago politician, and James J. Wilson, one-time medical student at Northwestern University—were given five-year sentences.

Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Paughman .....
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
Mr. Harbo .....
Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....

June 3, 1935

## PLEADS GUILTY IN BREMER CASE

Volney Davis Is Questioned in  
Abduction of Weyer-  
haeuser Boy

By United Press

ST. PAUL, June 3—Volney Davis pleaded guilty today when arraigned before Judge M. M. Joyce in Federal Court on charges of participating in the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer.

Davis, arrested by Melvin Purvis in Chicago and brought here by airplane, was a member of the notorious Barker-Karpis gang and was wanted for questioning with the abduction of George Weyerhaeuser in Tacoma, Wash.

Haggard and holding his hat over his face to avoid photographers, Davis was taken into Federal Court under heavy guard. George F. Sullivan, United States district attorney, who prosecuted the case which convicted five former allies of Davis in the Barker-Karpis gang, moved that he be arraigned on a charge of conspiracy.

Judge Joyce instructed that the indictment be read and then asked Davis if he understood the meaning of the true bill. Davis replied that he did.

Asked whether he pleaded guilty

Turn to Page Eight

## PLEADS GUILTY IN BREMER CASE

Volney Davis Is Questioned in  
Abduction of Weyer-  
haeuser Boy

(Continued From Page One)

or not guilty, Davis answered, in a low voice:

"I plead guilty."

Davis was jailed to await sentence. It was understood that five others would be sentenced with him.

They are Byron Bolton and Elmer Farmer, both of whom pleaded guilty during the Barker trial, and John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, Harold Alderton, and James J. Wilson, who were found guilty with Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg. Barker and Berg previously were sentenced to life imprisonment.

All those to be sentenced late this week likewise face life terms.

Meanwhile Davis will be questioned in connection with the Weyerhaeuser kidnaping.

It was believed by federal agents that Davis had been in contact with the other members of the gang in recent months.

During negotiations for ransom- ing of the Weyerhaeuser boy, Davis' name was frequently connected to the abduction by federal operatives. He was identified, it was reported, as the man who attempted to rent an apartment near the Weyerhaeuser home.

TACOMA, Wash., June 3 — Department of Justice agents, engaged in their greatest manhunt since the search for John Dillinger, looked to Volney Davis, Midwestern gangster and slayer, today to lead them to the men who kidnaped 9-year-old George Weyerhaeuser for \$200,000 ransom.

Every highway leading from the

state was patrolled by deputy sher-  
iffs and state police, rifles unslung,  
ready for use.

Mr. Schuler  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

INDIANAPOLIS NEWS  
June 7, 1935

## Karpis, an Ex-Marble Champ, Now Regarded by G-Men More Deadly Than Dillinger

WASHINGTON, June 7 (A.P.)—Member after member of the notorious Barker-Karpis mob—last of the midwest gangs which in recent years terrorized the country—has been marching to prison or death as federal agents and police steadily push the roundup of killers, kidnapers and robbers.

With the capture by federal agents of Volney Davis, convicted murderer and admitted participant in the Bremer kidnapping, twenty-six-year-old Alvin Karpis, erstwhile boy marble champion, of Topeka, Kas., is the only so-called "big shot" of the Barker-Karpis gang still at large.

Karpis, wanted for the murder of Sheriff C. R. Kelly, of West Plains, Mo., as well as the Bremer abduction and several robberies, has been labeled "Public Enemy No. 1." J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the G-men, recognizes no such classification, asserting "all of these outlaws are rats to us," but it is known federal officials consider Karpis to be a shrewder and, for that reason, a more dangerous outlaw than was the much-publicized Dillinger.

A slender, fair complexioned "oldish" young man with brown hair and blue eyes, Karpis first ran afoul of the law when he was seventeen years old. Sentenced to the Kansas State Reformatory for ten years upon a burglary conviction, he escaped four years later and since 1930 has kept police or federal officers busy chasing

him for a series of daring depredations.

Two years ago when the wave of kidnappings reached its crest, the Barker-Karpis gang numbered from twenty-two to twenty-eight men, with Kate (Ma) Barker, her two sons, Arthur R. and Fred Barker, and Karpis the recognized leaders of the out-

fit. They made their headquarters at various times in Kansas City, Chicago and St. Paul. Their crime trails often crossed those of the Dillinger, Verne Miller and Machine Gun Kelly gangs, but their operations were not definitely linked with the activities of those mobs.

### Many Caught Or Killed.

Most spectacular of the Barker-Karpis crimes, was the kidnapping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, in broad daylight on January 17, 1934, after he had driven his daughter to school. He was taken in an automobile to a hideout where he was held for three weeks and then released after payment of \$200,000 ransom.

Federal agents have been working on the case steadily and, up to the recent arrest of Volney Davis, their efforts had resulted in the killing of three members of the gang who resisted arrest and the conviction or pleas of guilty by seven others.

### Six Still Sought.

Besides young Karpis, members of the gang who are being sought for participation in the abduction include Harry Campbell, William Weaver, William J. Harrison, Joseph P. Moran and Myrtle Eaton.

While federal officials have not indicated they believe he was involved in the Weyerhaeuser kidnapping, the G-men nevertheless are quietly but relentlessly pressing their quest for the last of the midwest's ace outlaws. His ability to keep under cover is attributed to the fact that he is less of a "show-off" than were Dillinger and Baby Face Nelson and that he has a more wholesome respect for the business-like methods of the federals.



ALVIN KARPIS

Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Baughman .....
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
Mr. Harbo .....
Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Schilder .....
Mr. Schlichter .....
Mr. Smith .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Mr. Gandy .....

## WOMAN BETRAYS DAVIS TO 'G-MEN'

ST. PAUL, Tuesday, June 4.—(AP)—A woman with whom he had been keeping company betrayed Volney Davis, Barker-Karpis gangster who pleaded guilty to conspiracy in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, it was learned from an authoritative source today.

Davis' arrest in Chicago brought the federal government's score in the \$200,000 abduction to nine persons in jail, four others were dead, five were acquitted and eight were still at large.

Following a "tip" from a Chicago girl with whom Davis was seen on several occasions after his escape at Yorkville, Ill., where he slugged a federal agent with a beer mug, government officers maintained a trap for the gangster for a week. They missed him on two occasions previous to his capture.

### Authorities Informed

Davis, "boy friend" of Edna Murray, "kissing bandit" who was freed of conspiracy charges in the kidnaping of the St. Paul banker and returned to a Missouri prison, had made arrangements with the girl to meet him at Austin, Ill., Chicago suburb, and authorities were informed of the proposed meeting.

Sentence will be pronounced on Davis in Federal Court Friday, with life imprisonment the possible penalty. He is also a fugitive from the Oklahoma State Prison, where he was serving a sentence for murder.

### Others Under Arrest

Of the others arrested in the Bremer case, Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg have been sent to prison for life; John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, Elmer Farmer, Byron Bolton, Harold Alderton and James J. Wilson were awaiting sentence in the county jail here, and Harry Sawyer, asserted "finger man," still awaits trial.

At large were Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell, William Weaver, William Harrison, Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Mrs. Myrtle Eaton and two persons indicted as "John Doe" and "Richard Roe."

Davis' plea of guilty came as a surprise, the gangster asserting, "the minute they read that indictment I could see they knew as much about this kidnaping as I did. It's no use trying to beat these G-guys."

## ***Big Bad Gunmen Turn Out to Be Only Fishermen***

BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE JOURNAL  
Rhinelander, Wis.—It was not Alvin Karpis and two other gangsters that caused Oneida and Vilas county residents to load up their deer rifles Wednesday morning, but a party of peaceful Rhinelander fishermen.

Sheriffs John Farnen of Rhinelander and Del McGregor of Eagle River were notified by a Three Lakes road patrol crew early Wednesday that a car containing the three gangsters, all heavily armed with revolvers and machine guns, was hidden in the brush near Thunder Lake in Oneida county.

While Vilas county officials stood by ready to help and Three Lakes residents excitedly prepared for another Little Bohemia bombardment, Sheriff Farnen, Undersheriff Hans Rodd and Policemen Drill Hibbard and George Hintz of Rhinelander drove to Thunder Lake.

The parked car belonged to Forest Turcotte, Rhinelander, and he was peacefully fishing with two companions. The machine guns were nothing but fishing rods in cases.

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL,  
JUNE 6, 1935

SAN FRANCISCO NEWS

June 3, 1935

(Monday)

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Beach  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Foxworth  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

## Volney Davis, Flown to St. Paul, Admits Part in Bremer Kidnap

By United Press

ST. PAUL, June 3.—Volney Davis pleaded guilty today when arraigned before Judge M. M. Joyce in Federal Court on charges of participating in the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer.

Davis, arrested by Melvin Purvis in Chicago and brought here by airplane, was a member of the notorious Barker-Karpis gang and was wanted for questioning in connection with the abduction of George Weyerhaeuser in Tacoma, Wash.

He was arraigned on the Bremer charge within a few hours after arrival here. Sentence was deferred.

Haggard and holding his hat over his face, Davis was taken in wrist and leg chains into Federal Court under heavy guard.

United States Dist. Atty. George F. Sullivan, who prosecuted the case which convicted five former allies of Davis in the Barker-Karpis gang, moved that he be arraigned on a charge of conspiracy.

Asked whether he pleaded guilty or not guilty, Davis answered, in a

low voice:

"I plead guilty."

Davis, under indictment as one of the actual kidnapers of Bremer, was linked with the abduction of the St. Paul banker during the trial of seven Barker-Karpis gangsters here last month. Byron Bolton, a member of the gang who turned Government's evidence, testified that Davis participated in seizure of Bremer.

Davis' capture was made in Austin, Chicago suburb, Saturday.

Police received reports of a shooting. When they arrived on the scene witnesses told them a man who stepped from a car with Georgia license plates was set upon by half a dozen men. The man started to run but stopped when the men fired a shot in the air, the witnesses said.

Reports were that Davis had been sent to Chicago by the Weyerhaeuser kidnap gang to handle the "payoff" of the ransom money. Postoffice officials were instructed to be on the lookout for all mail coming from the vicinity of Tacoma.

Davis first gained notoriety in 1923 when he was sentenced to the Oklahoma State Prison for murder. It was believed it was there he met Karpis.

Davis had escaped agents early this year in Illinois by throwing a glass of beer into his captor's face and leaping out a window.



Mr. Schiller...  
Mr. Smith...  
Mr. Tamm...  
Mr. Tracy...  
Miss Gandy...

# PAL OF KARPIS CONFESSES TO BREMER ABDUCTION; ALSO QUESTIONED ON TACOMA CASE

## S. F. Ransom Bill Numbers Clue in Search; All Highways of Northwest Barricaded by Police and Federals

*Developments in the nationwide hunt for the kidnapers of  
young George Weyerhaeuser:*

IN TACOMA federals carried photographs of Alvin Karpis, the asserted Egoist of the ransom notes. "G-men" were ordered to kill the kidnaper on sight. All highways were blockaded, but so far there was no arrest of "Bill, Harry, Al" or any others of the six men who abducted the timber scion for \$200,000 ransom. Numbers of ransom bills, all from the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank, were given police and bank tellers. Young George, excused from school, was resting at home.

IN ST. PAUL Federal agents questioned Volney Davis, known pal of Karpis. Davis, secretly captured near Chicago Saturday, was flown to Minneapolis in a special plane with "G-men" who kept him bound hand and foot. Arraigned on charges of participating in the \$200,000 Bremer kidnaping, Davis pleaded guilty. Sentence was deferred, pending further questioning on the Weyerhaeuser case.

IN LOS ANGELES police broadcast descriptions of two Americans and a Greek believed to be driving in an auto that resembled one of those used in the kidnaping.

IN WASHINGTON J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reiterated his conviction it was only a matter of time before the abductors would be captured.

*By United Press*

TACOMA, Wash., June 2.—The true identity of the Egoist is known by the Department of Justice.

This was learned as "G-men" sought to crack the so far impregnable lair of the band which snatched little George Weyerhaeuser and received \$200,000 for his freedom.

The Egoist leaped from an eccentric ransom note signature to that of a known gangster when it was learned that each of the Federal Bureau of Investigation agents carries in his pocket an excellent photograph of the ace suspect in the crime.

Federal agents would not divulge whose photograph they bear opposite their gun-laden shoulder holsters, but it is popularly supposed to be that of Old Creepy—Alvin Karpis, present public enemy No. 1.

**'Shoot to Kill' Orders**

When and if the Egoist is cornered, the Government men's orders are to "shoot first—and shoot to kill."

Volney Davis, one-time first lieutenant of Karpis, was flown to Minneapolis in a plane loaded with Government men. He was arrested secretly Saturday in Chicago.

Justice agents are believed to have wrung from Davis definite information that Karpis is "holed up" in the Northwest and probably linked with George's kidnaping. Davis, himself, was said to have rented an apartment here shortly before the abduction.

Meanwhile, it was learned that the kidnapers had full possession of the ransom money—the entire \$200,000—almost 24 hours before George was liberated. This was known by agents at the time and they feared a second ransom demand before George's release.

The bank notes which bought the liberation of the young scion of the wealthy timber clan immediately became "hot money" today as every bank and law enforcement agency studied descriptions contained in a speedily prepared booklet flown here from Washington.

**S. F. Bills Listed**

Twenty thousand San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank notes, whose serial numbers begin with "L" and end with "A," were listed in such fashion that they can be "spotted" instantly by experienced bank tellers.

## Identified as Karpis; Ransom Bills Aid Hu

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of the Alvin  
is that gang  
suspected in

"Where is Alvin Karpis, who you last see him, what was he have you heard from him?" among the questions which fired at the little gangster, who confessed to taking part in the kidnaping in St. Paul, Minn.

**Escape Discounted**

Federal agents attached little significance to the escape of an automobile, reported to be tan in color and containing five or six men, deputy sheriffs in Umatilla County, Oregon, some 400 miles from Tacoma, Saturday night.

The deputies reported the car distanced them when they shot down car up to its limit of 90 an hour. Within a short time roadways leading out of the area were blocked, but the car was seen again. It was considered likely that it could have reached that sparsely settled region of its comparatively few road highways, and a close watch being maintained by Oregon troopers and by sheriffs' deputies that part of both Oregon and Washington.

Barricades have been erected on all roads and highways leading from the Puget Sound area. All automobiles must pass these one-way gates with their windows covered by machine guns and closely inspected by thousands of motorists were inspected at these stations. Every direction from Tacoma, British Columbia province and the U. S. Coast Guard patrolling Puget Sound were in the search, so that all leading from Washington closed.



SAN FRANCISCO CALL BULLETIN  
June 3, 1935  
(Monday)

## DAVIS ADMITS BREMER GUILT

ST. PAUL, June 3 (AP).—Gripped hard by the law he had dodged so long, Volney Davis, 37, one of the Barker-Karpis kidnap mob, pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges in connection with the \$200,000 Bremer abduction case today.

Federal officials here said they were convinced Volney Davis was not connected with the Weyerhaeuser abduction. They added Davis was known to have been in the Chicago area the entire week of the Weyerhaeuser kidnaping.

Arraigned before Federal Judge M. M. Joyce, the fugitive gangster listened to the lengthy reading of the indictment in the same courtroom in which his erstwhile pal, Arthur ("Doc") Barker, recently was convicted of kidnaping Edward G. Bremer, wealthy St. Paul banker, last year.

At the conclusion of the hearing, Davis himself answered "guilty." He was not represented by counsel.

Togged out in a gray suit with blue shirt and tie and brown and gray suede shoes, Davis listened unmoved before the bar of justice while guards eyed him narrowly. Judge Joyce and District Attorney Sullivan agreed on Friday at 4 p. m. as the time for sentencing Davis. Sentence also will be passed at that time on four others convicted in the case. Byron Bolton, who pleaded guilty, will be delayed.

[Sunday, May 26, 1935]

## THE ST. JOSEPH NEWS-PRESS.

# LIMERICK TO KANSAS CITY IN MANACLES

United States 'G' Men Remove Bank Bandit From St. Joseph While Six States Are Seeking His Custody.

## IS CHAINED TO CAR

### FARMERS PILE UP

campaign. Long before the 1933 Kansas City toward Mitchell had its inception understood that Truman's enmity in political circles, however, it opposed the Pendergast ticket. Youth Movement, unsuccessful ticket, supported by the National A. Rose Hill for mayor. The fusion ticket headed by which b during an interview in which an during the bitter municipal campaign forces by going to Kansas City Mitchell aroused the Pendergast men, but that he wrote a letter, wanted him in his department that Jesse Jones, RFC chairman of commerce failed. He said Mitchell out as assistant secretary. Apparent efforts to "ease job. him from obtaining another federal for Truman would seek to prevent from his present post he and Sena in the event of Mitchell's removal. cendy was quoted as saying the camp Clark. Senator Clark re late Speaker of the house and I certainly indly he had

### LIMERICK TO KANSAS CITY IN MANACLES

Continued From Page 1 A.

fugitive, too. It is a lot worse than bootlegging, for which he has been held." Yet the agent said, "Don't quote me, remember; talk to my boss." The "boss" was never in when called in Kansas City.

#### Seeking a Partner.

Early this morning four St. Joseph detectives and two squads of state highway patrolmen were working throughout northwest Missouri, seeking a partner of Limerick, known to have been with him in the last few days. That partner, Maurice Denning, was known to have been here since Limerick came to the city.

In Central Police Station early today rested Frank Brown, sixty-one years old, said to be the father-in-law of Beaver. He was arrested at his home on U. S. highway No. 71, across the road from the Greenfield Village, where the police said they found an arsenal of high-powered guns that belonged to Limerick. Just what disposition will be made of Brown was undecided. It was said the officers were seeking another person also suspected of harboring the fugitive.

#### Local Warrant.

with a federal man at the wheel and accompanied by three detectives. He was handcuffed with the cuffs chained to the car. On his ankles were leg irons.

#### Two Cars Trailing.

Trailing the car were two more motor cars, one containing detectives and the other said to have contained Uncle Sam's famed "G" men. Those in the latter car were well armed.

A short distance south of the city limits the cars were met by two cars of state highway policemen who acted as police escorts into the

### SIX STATES WANTING TO RETURN LIMERICK

It looked like a peace officers' convention at Central Police Station Saturday night. There were officers from Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and several Missouri officials on hand. "I've got a clear cut case on Limerick," said Paul Gruber of the Iowa state department of justice. "We want him bad," said State Sheriff Fred Benton of Nebraska, who with Deputy Lee Burnes had speeded to St. Joseph when notified of the arrest. Kansas officers wanted him for at least two charges. South Dakota, North Dakota and Minnesota officers sent several telegrams, offering to extradite the prisoner.

city limits of Kansas City. There more police cars escorted the party to the jail.

B. Marvin Casteel, superintendent of the state highway patrol, came to St. Joseph Saturday when notified of the arrest and aided in the questioning.

#### Tip on Denning.

Casteel, with Chief Enos, Chief Duncan and two officers, speeded to the Beaver home on U. S. highway No. 71 Saturday evening when they heard, via a tip, that Denning was there. At the home they found a well-known South Side man had driven out to feed some hounds he was keeping at the place.

Department of justice agents said just before they left that it was not known if any of the \$415 possessed by Limerick when arrested was part of any of the loots he is accused of obtaining. Limerick told the officers he had found the badge they located in his clothing. He denied ownership of the guns seized at the Beaver home.

#### PERFECT CASE HERE.

Prosecutor Hoffman's Precautionary Measure Well Justified.

"We had a perfect case against him," said Prosecutor Maurice Hoffman last night, as he explained why he issued a warrant against Tom Limerick. "When I learned that several other states were seeking Limerick I issued the warrant. He was accused of robbery with firearms, which is a capital offense. We had plenty of witnesses. That is why I put in my bid for him." Hoffman added he was satisfied with the disposition of Limerick when he learned he had been turned over to federal officers.

#### CHATS WITH CHIEF DUNCAN.

Bandit Limerick Talks of His Career and Its Uselessness.

Crime is just a bad apple he wishes would

months ago in Milwaukee, he said, after he had learned "they'd put the heat on us about a 'hot' (stolen) car and Maurice didn't tell me anything about it," yet:

#### "I'm Just a Dummy"

"If Maurice was in here now and I was outside, I wouldn't want him telling where I was. I'm just a dummy. I have to be a dummy," he declared with a "Don't-you-see?" expression.

"They've said I'm wanted from Texas to Canada for almost everything under the sun, but if they file charges against me in some places, it'll make the laughing stock of the country out of them.

"If they do in some other places, well"—he broke off with that wry smile and an expressive shrug of his shoulders.

#### Is That Courage?

Admitting it would have been better if someone had "snatched on you the first time you pulled anything," as Chief Duncan put it, Limerick nevertheless defended the brand of courage called for in bank robbery.

Chief Duncan suggested it didn't take courage to rob a man when you always had the drop on him with a gun, but it did to tell one's self he was through with wrong doing and follow that course.

"Listen, Doc," he asserted, "you bet your life every time against an unknown amount of money, and you don't know whether you're going to get a nickel or even a dime.

"Don't tell me it doesn't take guts to do that," he declared with a certain show of pride.

A few moments later, however, he had lost his swagger and was the rueful and trapped man again.

state highway patrolmen were working throughout northwest Missouri, seeking a partner of Limerick, known to have been with him in the last few days. That partner, Maurice Denning, was known to have been here since Limerick came to the city.

In Central Police Station early today rested Frank Brown, sixty-one years old, said to be the father-in-law of Beaver. He was arrested at his home on U. S. highway No. 71, across the road from the Greenfield Village, where the police said they found an arsenal of high-powered guns that belonged to Limerick. Just what disposition will be made of Brown was undecided. It was said the officers were seeking another person also suspected of harboring the fugitive.

#### Local Warrant.

With six states and the federal government seeking Limerick, two St. Joseph deputy sheriffs appeared at the station with a warrant for the custody of him. The warrant accused Limerick of robbing Gus Williams, proprietor of the Harlem club, 107 1/4 North Second street, of \$7, the officers said. But Uncle Sam already had claimed the prisoner.

Limerick was captured at 514 Edmond street two hours after he was alleged to have attacked Williams.

#### Is Reluctant.

Questioned by Chief Enos and Chief of Detectives John T. Duncan, Limerick revealed little. Even when confronted with his pictures and fingerprints from the files in the office of B. T. Andrews, superintendent of the identification bureau, Limerick acted as if he had been arrested by mistake.

It was not until he had been taken into Andrews' office for final fingerprinting and photographing that he really admitted his name.

After Andrews had taken four sets of prints, two of which will go to Uncle Sam, Limerick was asked to write his own name on the cards for identity.

#### "What Name?"

"What name do you want? I can write a million or so, the way you talk," he snapped. "Yea, but what the h—; give me the pen."

Immediately he signed the cards, "Thomas R. Limerick."

"What does the R. mean?" asked Walter Davis, aiding Andrews.

"Why, you know, the records show that means Robert," replied Limerick.

After the "mugging" was done, Limerick was placed into a car

#### Prosecutor Hoffman's Precautionary Measure Well Justified.

"We had a perfect case against him," said Prosecutor Maurice Hoffman last night, as he explained why he issued a warrant against Tom Limerick. "When I learned that several other states were seeking Limerick I issued the warrant. He was accused of robbery with firearms, which is a capital offense. We had plenty of witnesses. That is why I put in my bid for him." Hoffman added he was satisfied with the disposition of Limerick when he learned he had been turned over to federal officers.

#### CHATS WITH CHIEF DUNCAN.

##### Bandit Limerick Talks of His Career and Its Uselessness.

Crime is just a bad apple he wishes he'd never bitten into to the most wanted man held here since Fred (Killer) Burke. At least that's the way Tom Limerick, captured yesterday in an Edmond street drink place, felt about it yesterday afternoon as the police were wondering which of half a dozen states would gain custody of this national public enemy on their hands.

"A guy's a damn fool to get into this racket," he put it when Chief of Detectives John T. Duncan questioned him about his career of bank banditry.

##### "It'd Be Different."

"If I could go back and I knew what I know now, it'd be different," he said.

He revealed he'd decided more than a month ago to give it up and start life anew in some place he wasn't known.

But now he was tasting the worm in the apple. He grew philosophical as he talked to Chief Duncan. He called him "Doc."

"Doc," he disagreed with the chief, "I could tell you all about everything I ever did, but it wouldn't do me any good. If I'm stuck, I'm stuck, and that's all there is to it."

##### "All Washed Up."

Then he put on a wry smile he wore frequently as he talked.

"I bought myself a house and I was going to go there—some place where nobody knows me—and start all over again. But," and he shrugged his shoulders and spread his hands eloquently, "that's all washed up now."

Four of St. Joseph's police detectives spoiled all that.

About Maurice Denning or his other fellows Limerick wouldn't talk. He'd split with Denning two

# **Davis Given Life In Bremer Kidnaping**

ST. PAUL, June 7 (UP).—Verney Davis, Edward G. Bremer kidnaper captured last week in Chicago, today was sentenced to life imprisonment as he and four others implicated in the \$200,000 abduction were brought into Federal Court for sentence. He pleaded guilty. Sentence was pronounced by Judge M. M. Joyce.

John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, chief money changer in the kidnaping and former Illinois political power, was sentenced to five years.

Harold Alderton, who arranged the hideout at Bensenville, Ill., where Bremer was held captive 22 days, was sentenced to 20 years.

Elmer Farmer, who aided Alderton, was sentenced to 20 years.

James J. Wilson, chauffeur for Dr. John P. Morgan and also a money changer, was sentenced to five years.

The life sentence for Davis was the third imposed as result of kidnaping.

Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Brughman .....
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
Mr. Harbo .....
Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Schmidt .....
Mr. Schuler .....
Mr. Smith .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....
.....
.....



# DAVIS GETS LIFE TERM IN BREMER KIDNAPPING

**Two Get 20 Years and Two  
Others 5 Years Each for Parts  
in St. Paul Abduction.**

ST. PAUL, June 7 (AP).—Volney Davis, who pleaded guilty Monday to conspiracy in the \$200,000 Edward G. Bremer kidnapping after his capture in Chicago, was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Leavenworth penitentiary in Federal court here late today.

John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, former Chicago politician, was sentenced to five years as a conspirator in the same case.

James J. Wilson, former Northwestern University medical student, was sentenced to five years in the industrial reformatory at Chillicothe, Ohio.

"I am sending you there in the hope you can rehabilitate yourself," Judge M. Joyce told him.

McLaughlin was accused of engineering the "peddling" of \$57,000 of ransom money. Harold Alderton, in whose home at Bensenville, Ill., Bremer was kept prisoner for twenty-one days, was sentenced to twenty years in prison.

McLaughlin and Alderton, together with Arthur (Doc) Barker, Wilson and Oliver Berg, were convicted by a jury. Barker and Berg previously had received life terms.

Elmer Farmer, tavern keeper of Bensenville, who assisted in making arrangements with the kidnapers for Alderton's home and who pleaded guilty during the trial, was sentenced to twenty years in Leavenworth prison. Alderton's term also will be served in Leavenworth.

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Schuler .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

# KARPIS' AIDE ADMITS GUILT IN BREMER JOB

Davis Arrested at Chicago May  
Be Implicated In Tacoma  
Affair.

IS FLOWN TO ST. PAUL

Morning's Catch Has Been  
Sought Since Escape Early  
This Year.

By United Press  
ST. PAUL, June 3—Volney  
Davis pleaded guilty today when  
arraigned before Judge M. M.  
Joyce in Federal Court on charges  
of participating in the \$200,000  
kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer.  
Alvin Karpis, chief suspect in the  
He is listed as a confederate of  
Alvin Karpis, chief suspect in the  
\$200,000 Weyerhaeuser kidnap-  
ing.

Haggard and holding his hat  
over his face to avoid photogra-  
phers, Davis was taken into Fed-  
eral Court.

United States District Attorney  
George F. Sullivan, who prose-  
cuted the case which convicted five  
former allies of Davis in the Bark-  
er-Karpis gang, moved that he  
be arraigned on a charge of con-  
spiracy.

Asked whether he pleaded  
guilty or not guilty, Davis an-  
swered, in a low voice:  
"I plead guilty."

Davis was jailed to await sen-  
tence.

## Five Others Await Sentence

It was understood that five oth-  
ers would be sentenced with him.

They are Byron Bolton and  
Elmer Farmer, both of whom  
pleaded guilty during the Barker  
trial, and John J. (Boss) Mc-  
Laughlin, Harold Alderton, and  
James J. Wilson, who were found  
guilty with Arthur (Doc) Barker  
and Oliver Berg. Barker and  
Berg previously were sentenced to  
life imprisonment.

All those to be sentenced late  
this week likewise face life terms.

Meanwhile Davis will be ques-  
tioned in connection with the Wey-  
erhaeuser kidnaping.

## To Ask About Hideouts

It was believed by Federal  
agents that Davis had been in con-  
tact with the other members of  
the gang in recent months.

During negotiations for ran-  
soming of the Weyerhaeuser boy,  
Davis' name was frequently con-  
nected to the abduction by Fed-  
eral operatives. He was identi-  
fied, it was reported, as the man  
who attempted to rent an apart-  
ment near the Weyerhaeuser  
home.

Agents, it was expected, would  
question Davis concerning hide-  
outs used by Alvin Karpis, Harry  
Campbell and William Weaver,  
major remaining fugitives of the  
gang, since their trail was lost  
early this year while Karpis was  
en route west following his es-  
cape with Campbell from a police  
trap in Atlantic City.

## "Couldn't Beat Rap"

A few minutes after pleading  
guilty, Davis told the United Press  
that he admitted his part in the  
Bremer abduction "because the  
Government knew as much about  
the kidnaping as I did and I didn't  
have a chance to beat the rap."

Davis was seized in Chicago  
and hustled here by airplane.

Davis, who made a sensation-  
al escape from Government agent  
early this year by hurrying

# GANGSTER HELD IN KIDNAPING

Davis, Aide of Karpis, Taken  
By Plane From Chicago  
To Tacoma.

(STARTS ON PAGE ONE)

The arrest was made at Austin,  
Ill.

## Numbers of Ransom Bills Circulated

By WILFRED BROWN

United Press Staff Correspondent

TACOMA, Wash., June 3 —  
Peace officers of the government  
and state placed Washington under  
a virtual state of siege today  
as they collaborated in one great  
effort to apprehend the gang  
that stole George Weyerhaeuser,  
9, and turned him back to his  
millionaire parents for \$200,000.

Every highway leading from  
the state was patrolled by deputy  
sheriffs and state police, rifles  
unslung, ready for use. Coast  
guardsmen roared back and forth  
along Puget Sound, scrutinizing  
every boat. British Columbia au-  
thorities aided with a blockade  
of their shoreline and ports.

Officers seemed confident their  
quarry still was within the limits  
of the state, probably in the area  
where they released George Sat-  
urday morning with a dollar bill,  
blankets and an admonition to  
wait for his dad.

While the area was so "bottled  
up" that hardly no one could  
spread another "rumor" about  
one that "hotted" around. Richard  
Hauptmann, in the Lindbergh  
case.

The trap was lined with \$5,  
\$10, and \$20 Federal reserve  
notes, the money paid by F. R.  
Titcomb, uncle of the kidnaped  
boy, for his release.

Booklets arrived by airplane  
from Washington listing every  
one of the bills by its serial  
number. These were to be dis-  
tributed to banks throughout the  
nation with the request that the  
nearest Department of Justice of-  
fice be notified should one of the  
notes appear.

While the booklets were pre-  
pared for mailing, Justice agents  
massed in Tacoma awaited the  
arrival from Chicago of Volney  
Davis, a member of the Karpis  
gang which is believed involved  
in the kidnaping.

While a spokesman for the  
agents said Davis was not wanted  
in this case, it was considered  
possible he would be questioned  
closely on his knowledge of the  
whereabouts of Alvin Karpis.

KNOXVILLE NEWS-SENTINEL  
Knoxville, Tennessee  
June 3, 1935.

Re: ALVIN KARPIS, wa, FUGITIVE, I.O.  
1218; ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE  
BREMER - VICTIM; KIDNAPING  
HARBORING AND OBSTRUCTION OF  
JUSTICE; NATIONAL FIREARMS ACT.

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
GEORGE WEYERHAEUSER - Victim  
KIDNAPING.

IT'S GOOD TO BE HOME, SMILES GEORGE



Smiling George Weyerhaeuser, 9, millionaire's son, who was released outside his Tacoma, Wash. home, after being held by kidnapers.

James J. Wilson, who were found guilty with Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg. Barker and Berg previously were sentenced to life imprisonment.

All those to be sentenced late this week likewise face life terms. Meanwhile Davis will be questioned in connection with the Weyerhaeuser kidnaping.

#### To Ask About Hideouts

It was believed by Federal agents that Davis had been in contact with the other members of the gang in recent months.

During negotiations for ransom of the Weyerhaeuser boy, Davis' name was frequently connected to the abduction by Federal operatives. He was identified, it was reported, as the man who attempted to rent an apartment near the Weyerhaeuser home.

Agents, it was expected, would question Davis concerning hideouts used by Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell and William Weaver, major remaining fugitives of the gang, since their trail was lost early this year while Karpis was en route west following his escape with Campbell from a police trap in Atlantic City.

#### "Couldn't Beat Rap"

A few minutes after pleading guilty, Davis told the United Press that he admitted his part in the Bremer abduction "because the Government knew as much about the kidnaping as I did and I didn't have a chance to beat the rap."

Davis was seized in Chicago and hustled here by airplane.

Davis, who made a sensational escape from Government agents early this year by hurling a glass of beer in his captor's face, was revealed to have mutilated his finger tips in an effort to escape capture.

His hair, black and bushy a few years ago, has turned slightly grey.

Davis was captured by Melvin Purvis, head of the Department of Justice in Chicago and nemesis of John Dillinger, George (Baby Face) Nelson and other gangsters. (Please turn to last page)

along Puget Sound, scrutinizing every boat. British Columbia authorities aided with a blockade of their shoreline and ports.

Officers seemed confident their quarry still was within the limits of the state, probably in the area where they released George Saturday morning with a dollar bill, blankets and an admonition to wait for his dad.

While the area was so "bottled up" that hardly no one could leave without being questioned, spread rumors that the same one who had been arrested in the Lindbergh kidnaping was the kidnaper.

The trap was laced with \$5, \$10, and \$20 Federal reserve notes, the money paid by F. R. Titcomb, uncle of the kidnaped boy, for his release.

Booklets arrived by airplane from Washington listing every one of the bills by its serial number. These were to be distributed to banks throughout the nation with the request that the nearest Department of Justice office be notified should one of the notes appear.

While the booklets were prepared for mailing, Justice agents massed in Tacoma awaited the arrival from Chicago of Volney Davis, a member of the Karpis gang which is believed involved in the kidnaping.

While a spokesman for the agents said Davis was not wanted in this case, it was considered possible he would be questioned closely on his knowledge of the whereabouts of Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell and other members of the notorious gang.

Another man was in custody but not much importance was attached to his arrest. He is 54-year-old George Powell, former newspaperman who was committed to a state hospital two years ago after confessing a plot to kidnap a Seattle boy.

#### Find Abandoned Car Like One Being Sought

By Associated Press

LOS ANGELES, June 3—A tan

(Ford) sedan answering the description of a machine in which the sheriff of Kern County, north of here, said two men were riding who resembled suspects wanted in the \$200,000 George Weyerhaeuser kidnaping was found abandoned in North Hollywood today. Preparations were made to take fingerprints from the car.



George Weyerhaeuser, millionaire lumber family, was found outside his Tacoma, Wash. home by kidnapers.

# DAVIS PLEADS

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Scheidt .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

# GUILTY IN BREMER KIDNAPING

CHICAGO DAILY TIMES

JUN 8 1935



# Vol Davis Guilty as Kidnap

## BULLETIN

St. Paul, June 8 (AP).—Gripped hard by the law he had dodged so long, Volney Davis, 35, one of the Barker-Karpis kidnap gang, pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges in connection with the \$200,000 Bremer abduction case today.

Volney Davis, 35, bad man, convicted murderer and member of the Barker-Karpis gang which kidnaped Edward G. Bremer for \$200,000, was rushed under heavy guard to St. Paul, this morning after his capture by federal agents in Chicago.

Handcuffed and manacled, the notorious gunman, accompanied by seven "G" men, landed at the Minneapolis airport at 5:15 a. m. He was met by six other federal men and taken to the depart-



Volney Davis

ment of justice headquarters. Harold E. Anderson, head of the department of justice bureau of investigation at St. Paul, said Davis would be arraigned immediately on the Bremer charge.

## SPIKE TACOMA LINK

Both Anderson and J. Edgar Hoover in Washington refused to discuss any connection Davis might have with the kidnaping of 9-year-old George Weyerhaeuser of Tacoma, Wash., but the definite inference was left that his arrest in Chicago Saturday afternoon had spiked reports that he was one of the Weyerhaeuser snatchers and had been seen in the neighborhood of the Tacoma boy's home last week.

The capture of Davis, in front of 046 Waller ave., was accompanied by shooting which Hoover, in his official announcement, described as a "slight unpleasantness."

## ONE SHOT FIRED

Davis had driven up to the address in an auto bearing Georgia licenses. When he alighted, he was surrounded by "G" men but made a break for freedom. One shot fired by a federal man caused him to change his mind and surrender.

Davis had been the object of a nation-wide search since he made his escape from government agents near Yorkville, Ill., while being taken from Kansas City to St. Paul by plane. After a forced landing, he threw a stein of beer in the face of his guard and dived through a saloon window to temporary freedom.

CHICAGO DAILY TIMES

JUN 8 1935

Re: ALVIN KARPIS, wa, FUGITIVE,  
I.O. 1218; ET AL: EDWARD  
GEORGE BREMER - Victim;  
KIDNAPING. HARBORING AND  
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE;  
NATIONAL FIREARMS ACT.

## Told Officers of Meeting Place Arranged With Gangster In Chicago Suburb.

ST. PAUL, June 4.—A woman with whom he had been keeping company betrayed Volney Davis, Barker-Karpis gangster who pleaded guilty to conspiracy in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, it was learned from an authoritative source today.

Davis' arrest in Chicago brought the Federal Government's score in the \$200,000 abduction to nine jailed. Four others were dead, five acquitted and eight were still at large.

Following a "tip" from a Chicago girl with whom Davis was seen on several occasions after his escape at Yorkville, Ill., where he slugged a Federal agent with a beer mug, Government officers maintained a trap for the gangster for a week. They missed him on two occasions previous to his capture.

Davis, sweetheart of Edna Murray, "kissing bandit," who was freed of conspiracy charges in the kidnaping of the St. Paul banker and returned to a Missouri prison, had made arrangements with the girl to meet him at Austin, Ill., Chicago suburb, and authorities were informed of the proposed meeting.

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Garfield  
Mr. Clark  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

THE KNOXVILLE NEWS-SENTINEL,  
Knoxville, Tennessee,  
June 5, 1935.

Re: ORDRA DAVIS; et al  
JOE J. LIPSKY - Victim  
KIDNAPING.  
NATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE  
THEFT ACT.

## DAVISES' BONDS TOTAL \$56,000

**\$36,000 Additional Demanded  
of Four On Top of Kidnap  
Charge Assessment.**

Total of \$56,000 bond stood today between the four Davis brothers, Paris, Odra, Joe and William, and their liberty.

On top of the \$20,000 bond demanded of Odra and William Davis Monday by U. S. Commissioner Powers on a kidnaping warrant, \$36,000 was added against the four yesterday on highway robbery charges.

They were given a hearing before Squires Reynolds and Giffin at County Jail. Atty. Carl M. Greenwell represented Paris Davis; the three others had no attorney.

Squire Reynolds bound over Odra and William Davis under \$5000 bonds for the robbery of Dan Bird on Emory Road.

Squire Giffin held Paris Joe and Odra Davis under \$5000 bonds on a charge of robbery of G. O. Butler's store. Odra Davis was held under \$5000 more for the robbery of Paul Chambers' store.

Paris Davis was held on \$1000 on a charge of receiving and concealing stolen property. Odra Davis was held under \$5000 for robbery of the Smith Peterson store near Hall's Cross Roads.

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Schmitt  
Mr. S. L. Sikes  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

25

7-576-H

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief Clerk \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Edwards \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Keith \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Lester \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Schilder \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Smith \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

### A Genuine Tribute

Volney Davis, presumably the No. 3 man in the notorious Barker-Karpis gang, pleaded guilty to having part in the Bremer kidnaping and made short work of it when he was haled into a St. Paul court. Mr. Davis, apparently a rather level-headed and philosophical individual, remarked that the Department of Justice men knew fully as much about the case as he did and that there was no use wasting time in beating about the bush. It is a genuine tribute to the so-called G-men and most encouraging to those who hope and pray that the nation has found a way to throttle the big-time racketeers and gangsters. The combination of thoroughness with continuity in effort against criminals is bound to get the desired results.

Newspaper Clipping taken from Memphis Commercial Appeal  
6/5/35

7-576-AT



June 6, 1935

## Girl Waitress Gets Threat She Thinks From Kidnapers

Arrest of Harry Campbell, member of the Karpis gang, would be of immense relief to a certain waitress in the hotel Winthrop coffee shop.

She was frightened so badly last Monday evening by what she interpreted as a threat that she hurried home in tears without remaining to serve the customer at her table.

About a week before the kidnaping of George Weyerhaeuser, a man whom the waitress believes was Campbell appeared in the coffee shop with an auburn haired woman. For nearly a week she served them. On the second day she noticed the woman's hair had been bleached since the previous morning.

The couple attracted considerable attention during the few days they were at the hotel. The man always wore a gardenia, according to the waitress.

On Monday evening following the kidnaping a small man of light complexion engaged the waitress in conversation about the case. She remarked that several newspaper men were in the coffee shop, and he asserted that if he wanted to he could give them a story that would "knock them off their feet."

The waitress says he then called

her attention to a black artificial daisy in his buttonhole.

"Do you know what that means?" he asked.

She replied that she did not.

"Well, it means death," he said.

The girl became frightened. She interpreted it as a warning not to tell what she knew of the couple she had served prior to the kidnaping.

She became so worried that she hurried home at once. Later, police learned of the incident.

## WOMAN HELPED

### Tacoman Believes He Saw Kidnapers At Work

Belief that a woman assisted in signaling the kidnapers of George Weyerhaeuser at the time the boy passed Annie Wright seminary just before the snatch, was expressed by a railroad man who reported what he noticed that noon.

"After reading about George walking along the path by the tennis court just before he was picked up, I became more convinced than ever that the man and woman I saw standing on the sidewalk near the north end of this path were connected with the case," he said.

"I was driving up Tacoma avenue from Old Tacoma a few minutes past 12 Friday. Passing the seminary I saw this couple near a lamp post right where the avenue curves around the tennis club property. At that point the dirt road leads off to the left and in the laurel hedge on the right of this road through which the path leads.

"The thing that attracted my attention was the intensity with which they were gazing down toward the cars parked in front of the seminary, just as if they were trying to spot somebody. I thought it strange they would be standing there. They could not be waiting for the Old Town street car, as that point was not a car stop.

"After passing them I glanced around and noticed they had not moved. The man wore dark clothes and had a slouch hat that was turned down in front. The woman wore a long, dark coat. I and they were about middle

ES

7-576-17

**THE DETROIT TIMES**

June 6, 1935

# BREMER KIDNAP GANG TO CELLS

International News Service Wire  
ST. PAUL, Minn., June 6.—John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, former Chicago politician, today was en route to Leavenworth penitentiary to start serving five years for his part in the \$200,000 ransom kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, wealthy St. Paul banker.

Four others were given sentences of from 20 years to life.

Volney Davis, one of the leaders of the Karpis band of outlaws, was sentenced to life. James J. Wilson, former Northwestern University student, five years, and Harold Alderton of Bensenville, Ill., and Elmer Farmer, Bensenville tavern keeper, 20 years each.

McLaughlin was accused of cashing in \$57,000 of the ransom money. He was given a light sentence, Federal Judge M. M. Joyce explained, because he is suffering from diabetes.

Bremer was kept for 21 days in Alderton's home in Bensenville, and Farmer aided in making arrangements for the use of the home.

Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg were sentenced to life last month for the part they played in the Bremer "snatching."

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

7-576-A



The  
LYONS  
Des

# Leonard Lyons Broadway Gazette

Nothing  
SEXTRA!  
Today

Vol. 1, No. 10.

Thursday, June 6, 1935

All-Class Matter

## KIKI ROBERTS NOT DIAMOND IN ROUGH: HER AIMEE IN LIFE NOW VERY SEMPL

**T**HE long-missing Kiki Roberts can be found in a small cafe at Shamokin, Pa., where she's dancing for \$20 a week. "Legs" Diamond's sweetheart insists that she has turned to religion. This fall she'll tour the country as an evangelist, and after Aimee Semple McPhersoning it, Kiki vows that she'll enter a nunnery.

### FEATURE STORY

For many weeks the Hotel McAlpin has been seeking a press-stunt to publicize the official opening of its Roof-Garden tonight. Enoch Light, whose orchestra will play there, suggested that Alyce Jane McHenry, the upside-down stomach girl, be invited to attend.

Everything worked out beautifully. The girl was tickled to make a visit to New York. She came with her father, mother and sister—and they're having a swell time as guests of Light and the McAlpin.

But Alyce Jane won't attend the opening—and the newspapers won't devote any nice, juicy space... They all had forgotten that Alyce Jane still hasn't recuperated from that much-publicized illness that made her a publicity lure. She must retire early—long before the opening hour. But she'll be glad to watch the orchestra rehearse. Very glad...

### NEWS

Mary Pickford is set for a return to Broadway in "Coquette," since her try-out performance in Seattle was so well received... The Alcohol Commissions of the various States probably will unite in permitting radio advertising of whisky products after 9:30 P. M. The theory is that all good kids, who may otherwise be tempted to evil ways, will be in bed by that time... The gang chieftains are worried over a new armor-piercing bullet just invented. Army authorities developed it for use against tanks. The mobsters just discovered that the bullet can easily penetrate their bullet-proof glass and cars.

### COMIC STRIP



### FASHIONS

At Thirty-sixth Street and Broadway a chain hat store has a display of photographs of Broadway figures wearing the company's hats. Each picture bears a testimonial.

"I'm wearing my new spring hat this year," one inscription reads. The 1935 inscriber is Wesley Eddy—who committed suicide last year!

### DRAMA REVIEW

The band is hidden 'neath the stage. The show on top. Oh, curse a "Sketch Book" which'd be much improved. If that were vice versa!

### MOVIES

W. C. Fields is chuckling over it now... In January, 1933, Fields was considering himself through. He had neither money nor job, and, although he was positive that he could make good in talkies, no studio would hire him. In desperation he approached one company and offered to write a two-reeler, direct it—and act in it... for nothing. All he wanted was to get in, and show 'em. But the company

turned him down. Their official snickered.

Two months ago that same company offered him a huge salary for ten days' work. Getting him into that picture meant everything to the production. Fields's reply—was a snicker...

### PERSONALS

U. S. SUPREME COURT: Nets to you—J. D. N.

S. S. NORMANDIE: Marya Fouts!—L. L. PEGGY JOYCE—How about tonight? I'll be on the corner as usual. I won't wear a rose so that you'll know me. I'll wear my heart on my sleeve.—NEARLY BROKEN.

ALVIN KARPIS: Jackson wants to see you.—J. D. N. EDGAR BOOYER

### THEATRE

Jim Barton came out of seclusion last week and returned to Broadway to see a show for a change. The play he saw—was "Tobacco Road"...

### NOVELETTE

Jack Dalton, our hero, wanted to become a Broadway star. To achieve that forgivable aim, he retained a press-agent to place his name on the front page. "Sure I'll get your name on the front page," the press-agent assured.

The first stunt was to have Dalton sued by a chorine for breach of promise. She was given a verdict of \$5,000, which Dalton paid—but it was only a Page 6 story. The press-agent tried fourteen more stunts, but the best result was a paragraph on Page 2.

After six months of this—Dalton's name finally appeared on a front page—of the New York Law Journal—in the column headed: "Bankruptcy Petitions!"

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Keith .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schmidt .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Smith .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

7-576-A



# U. S. SEIZES DAVIS, BREMER KIDNAPER

Pleads Guilty in Chicago,  
Eliminated in Tacoma  
Boy's Ransom.

BY REX COLLIER.

Volney Davis, companion of Alvin Karpis and the notorious Barker brother, Arthur and Fred, in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, today pleaded guilty to that crime shortly after disclosure by J. Edgar Hoover that his men captured him secretly in Chicago Saturday.

Davis thus was eliminated by the bureau as a suspect in the Weyerhaeuser case at Tacoma. He was in custody of bureau agents at the time witnesses reported seeing him in Seattle.

Hoover said Davis was taken "after a slight unpleasantness," referring apparently to reports that Federal agents were forced to use their guns in subduing him. Davis was flown to St. Paul and promptly entered a guilty plea when arraigned this morning. Sentence will be deferred until later in the week, but it was expected he will receive the same sentence as that of Arthur "Doc" Barker and other ringleaders in the Bremer crime—life imprisonment.

## Second Time in Custody.

It was the second time the Federal investigators of the \$200,000 kidnaping of Bremer have taken Davis into custody. The first time, last February, he escaped from two agents after their plane had been forced down on a farm near Yorkville, Ill.

Davis had been "identified" by Seattle residents as one of several "suspicious" persons who rented rooms there, but left hurriedly after release of the Weyerhaeuser boy early Saturday. It was impossible for Davis to have reached Chicago in time to be arrested there by the Federal men.

Hoover declined to reveal circumstances surrounding the capture. His men have been conducting a wide hunt for Davis since his indictment in the Bremer case, a search which was intensified after his escape following his first arrest in Kansas City, Mo.

At that time the agents were flying him to Chicago. Weather conditions compelled the pilot of the chartered plane to land in a field. A farmer drove the officers and their prisoner to nearby Yorkville, where one of the agents left to telephone this predicament to Chicago. Davis, temporarily unshackled to avoid attracting attention of townspeople, dived through a hotel window and fled into the night, under a shower of bullets.

## Helped Abduct Bremer.

Davis was accused by the bureau of having been with Karpis, so-called "public enemy No. 1," and the Barker brothers when they abducted Bremer on January 17, 1934, after he had

driven his daughter to school. Bremer was held in a hideout at Bensenville, Ill., until \$200,000 ransom was tossed into a ditch in response to signal lights flashed by the kidnapers. He was released February 7 near Rochester, Minn.

Fred Barker and his mother, "Ma" Barker, were slain in a gun battle with Hoover's agents near Miami, Fla., several months ago. Arthur Barker was captured later in Chicago and is serving his life sentence at Alcatraz Island Penitentiary. Karpis, also mentioned in unofficial speculation as a possible suspect in the Tacoma abduction, fled from the Miami hideout of the Barkers shortly before it was raided and later was surprised, with a companion, Harry Campbell, in an Atlantic City hotel by local police. Karpis and Campbell shot their way to freedom at that time.

## Davis Has Long Record.

Karpis is the last important fugitive of the gang which did the actual kidnaping of Bremer. Several alleged "aiders and abettors" are being sought.

Davis has a long criminal record, his crimes ranging from larceny to murder and kidnaping. He escaped from the Oklahoma State Penitentiary at McAlester in 1923, after serving two years of a life sentence for murder, but was recaptured several weeks later and returned. Arthur Barker, sentenced for the same murder, was paroled in 1932, and Davis was granted "leave of absence" two months later. He failed to return after expiration of the leave and has been listed as a fugitive since then.

## PLEADS GUILTY QUIETLY.

Sentence Deferred, but May Be Passed Friday or Saturday.

ST. PAUL, June 3 (AP)—Volney Davis, 33, considered by police one of the most dangerous members of the Barker-Karpis gang, pleaded guilty here today to a part in the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker.

Davis formally admitted his guilt a few hours after he had been brought to the Twin Cities by plane under a heavy guard of special agents of the Department of Justice. His capture—he was seized Saturday in Chicago—had been announced only a few minutes before.

Davis was arraigned before Federal Judge M. M. Joyce, in the same Federal court room where one of Davis' chiefs, Arthur (Doc) Barker, was convicted a few weeks ago of engineering the Bremer kidnaping. Barker received a life sentence.

When the judge read the Bremer case indictment, which charged Davis with writing the ransom notes while the banker was a prisoner, Davis said quietly:

"Guilty."

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

STAR

JUN 3 1935

Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Baughman .....
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
Mr. Harbo .....
Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Schilder .....
Mr. Smith .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....

# Plane With Karpis Aid Grounded at Madison

By Associated Press.

MADISON, Wis., June 3—A red and blue tri-motored airplane carrying Volney Davis, member of the Karpis gang, and federal officers from Chicago to St. Paul was grounded by a heavy rain storm here for several hours during the night.

The plane, identified as the property of the Bluebird Air Service of Chicago, arrived at the Royal airport at 8:30 p. m. last night, took on gasoline and departed, only to return within 10 minutes. After another takeoff, it again returned and remained until 3:15 a. m.

Airport attendants saw seven men in the plane, four of whom were armed. The plane was taxied to a dark corner of the field and one of the occupants remarked they did not want to see newspaper men.

An airport attendant who became suspicious of the plane, asked the man who appeared to be the leader, where the ship was bound for.

"You just keep your mouth shut," was the curt reply.

WISCONSIN NEWS  
JUNE 3, 1935

ES

7-576-17

June 4, 1935

## Volney Davis Goes to Jail, to Return No More



Associated Press WIREPHOTO. Handcuffed to a U. S. marshal, Volney Davis (right), the gangster who pleaded guilty to conspiracy in the Bremer kidnaping case, is taken to jail. He received a term of life imprisonment.

7-576-17

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Casper (Wyoming) Tribune

June 4, 1935

## Pleads Guilty



Volney Davis, above, member of the old Karpis-Barker gang, pleaded guilty yesterday in St. Paul to conspiracy in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer. Davis, who was captured in Chicago, was for a time a suspect in the kidnaping of George Weyerhaeuser, Tacoma, Wash., boy, but federal authorities have expressed belief he could not have been implicated. (Associated Press Photo).

Davis, who had been on several occasions after his escape at Yorkville, Ill., where he slugged a federal agent with a beer mug, government officers maintained a trap for the gangster for a week. They missed him on two occasions previous to his capture.

Davis, sweetheart of Edna Murray, "kissing bandit," who was freed of conspiracy charges in the kidnaping of the St. Paul banker and returned to a Missouri prison, had made arrangements with the girl to meet him at Austin, Ill., Chicago suburb, and authorities were informed of the proposed meeting.

Sentence will be pronounced on Davis in federal court Friday, with life imprisonment the possible penalty.

POST OFFICE BOX 1987  
PITTSBURGH, PA.

*[Handwritten signature]*

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

*[Handwritten initials "ES" and "R"]*

7-576-A

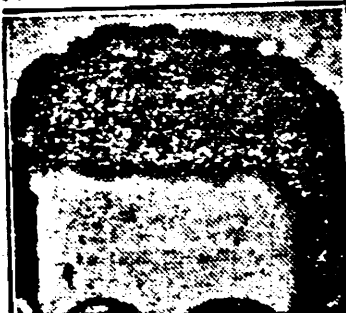
# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Casper (Wyoming) Tribune

June 4, 1935

## Pleads Guilty



## WOMAN GAVE OFFICERS TIP

### Betrayed Volney Davis to Law

ST. PAUL, June 4.—(P)—A woman with whom he had been keeping company betrayed Volney Davis, Barker-Karpis gangster who pleaded guilty to conspiracy in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, it was learned from an authoritative source today.

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POST OFFICE BOX 1987  
PITTSBURGH, PA.

*[Handwritten signature]*

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Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

*[Handwritten initials "ES" and "A"]*

7-576-19

# ER DAVIS SPEEDILY TELLS BREMER GUILT

Awaits Sentence Friday  
at St. Paul, Minn.

St. Paul, Minn., June 3.—[Special.]—Volney Davis, Oklahoma bad man brought here by special airplane from Chicago last night, pleaded guilty today before Federal Judge M. M. Joyce to conspiracy in the \$200,000 ransom kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer.

Judge Joyce announced he will sentence Davis at 4 p. m. on Friday. On that day four others, convicted in the same case also will be sentenced. Arthur [Doc] Barker and Oliver Berg were recently sentenced to life imprisonment for their part in the kidnaping. Others, including Alvin Karpis, leader of the gang, and his pal, Harry Campbell, are being sought in connection with the recent kidnaping of 9 year old George Weyerhaeuser.

## Has Long Criminal Record.

Federal agents do not believe Davis, who is 33 years old, took part in this latter case, though he has a criminal career dating back to 1919, when he was sentenced to three years in prison for larceny. Four years later he was sentenced to life imprisonment for a murder in Tulsa, Okla. He escaped in 1925; was recaptured a month later. He was paroled in 1932.

Arrested last February in connection with the abduction of Bremer on Jan. 17, 1934, Davis was being flown with federal agents to Chicago and their plane was forced down near Yorkville, Ill. While one of his guards was absent, Davis, standing at a tavern bar with the other, dashed a stein of beer in the federal agent's face, leaped out of a window, and escaped amid a hail of bullets.

## Taken in Chicago Saturday.

Trilled to Chicago, Davis was seized at Thomas street and Waller avenue there last Saturday. Despite carefully laid plans, it was reported there was gunplay during that arrest. Federal agents admitted merely that "there was some unpleasantness."

Davis was one of the "money changers" in the Bremer kidnaping case, as was John J. [Boss] McLaughlin, Chicagoan. McLaughlin is one of the five others awaiting sentence.

*E. J. [Signature]*

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schmitt	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

*E*

7-576-A

CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

JUN 4 1935



# VOLNEY DAVIS CAUGHT THROUGH TIP FROM GIRL

**Bremer Gang Member  
Taken Keeping Appoint-  
ment in Suburb.**

St. Paul, Minn., June 4.—(P)—A woman with whom he had been keeping company betrayed Volney Davis, Barker-Karpis gangster who pleaded guilty to conspiracy in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, it was learned from an authoritative source today.

Davis' arrest in Chicago brought the federal government's score in the \$200,000 abduction to nine in jail. Four others were dead, five were acquitted and eight were still at large.

Following a "tip" from a Chicago girl with whom Davis was seen on several occasions after his escape at Yorkville, Ill., where he slugged a federal agent with a beer mug, government officers maintained a trap for the gangster for a week. They missed him on two occasions previous to his capture.

## Arranged to Meet Sweetheart.

Davis, sweetheart of Edna Murray, "kissing bandit," who was freed of conspiracy charges in the kidnaping of the St. Paul banker and returned to a Missouri prison, had made arrangements with the girl to meet him in the Austin district of Chicago and authorities were informed of the proposed meeting.

Federal agents said they were convinced Davis had no connection with the kidnaping of 9-year-old George Weyerhaeuser in Tacoma, Wash. It was explained the gangster would not have been brought to St. Paul had he had any connection with the boy's abduction, despite the pending Bremer charge.

## To Be Sentenced Friday.

Sentence will be pronounced on Davis in the federal District court Friday, with life imprisonment the possible penalty. He is also a fugitive from the Oklahoma state prison, where he was serving a sentence for murder.

Of the others arrested in the Bremer case, Arthur ("Doc") Barker and Oliver Berg have been sent to prison for life; John J. ("Boss") McLaughlin, Elmer Farmer, Byron Bolton, Harold Alderton and James J. Wilson are awaiting sentence in the county jail here, and Harry Sawyer, alleged "finger man," still awaits trial.

At large are Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell, William Weaver, William Harrison, Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Mrs. Myrtle Eaton and two persons indicated as "John Doe" and "Richard Roe."

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Fox	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

7-576-A

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

JUN 4 1935

# Can't Beat 'G' Men! Davis Admits Guilt

"You can't beat the 'G' men." It was Volney Davis talking, the tough, little, fast-thinking, quick-triggered killer trapped by Department of Justice squads in Chicago Saturday, rushed to St. Paul by airplane yesterday, who had just pleaded guilty in federal court there to the Bremer kidnaping conspiracy.

"I pleaded guilty because I knew I couldn't beat those 'G' men. I'd been thinking of doing it for some time. After reading of the trial of 'Doc' Barker and others for the Bremer job, I decided that the government knew more about it than I did."

## A "WRECK" AT 35.

His bushy hair turning gray at 35, worn haggard with the strain of fleeing the federal men since he escaped two of them at Yorkville in February, Davis answered "guilty" to Federal Judge M. M. Joyce yesterday and was remanded for sentence later in the week. He had arrived shackled at the Minneapolis airport a few hours before.

His arrest ended reports that he was involved in the \$200,000 kid-

naping of 9-year-old George Weyerhaeuser at Tacoma.

Still sought in the Bremer kidnaping are Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell and half a dozen others.

The agents believe they are close to the trail of the elusive Karpis, now Public Enemy No. 1, as a result of Davis' arrest. Surrendering completely, he talked freely of himself and Karpis and their underworld connections.

## TRAPPED BY GIRL.

Davis was trapped by the skill with which agents played on his weakness for women. He was involved in a shooting over a girl in South Chicago a few weeks ago, which brought to federal men the aid of a jealous sweetheart. Her tip set the trap in front of 1046 Waller av. in Austin Saturday, when thirty federal men surrounded his car.

Karpis has been in Chicago three times since he and Harry Campbell shot their way out of an Atlantic City police trap in January.

Davis was convicted of murder in Oklahoma in 1922.

Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Baughman .....
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
Mr. Fox .....
Mr. Glavin .....
Mr. Ladd .....
Mr. Nichols .....
Mr. Rosen .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....

CHICAGO HERALD & EXAMINER

JUN 4 1935

7-576-A



# CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER

June 4, 1935

## Can't Beat G-Guys, Says Karpis Tough

ST. PAUL, June 3.—(AP)—Glad, he said, to "get it off his chest," Volney Davis, known as a tough member of the Barker-Karpis mob, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to kidnap Edward G. Bremer for \$200,000 today.

"It's no use trying to beat these G-guys," said Davis. He will be sentenced Friday, with life imprisonment the possible penalty.

"They had it on me," Davis added. "The minute they read that indictment I could see they knew as much about this kidnaping as I did."

Details brought out by the government in the trial of Arthur (Doc) Barker, Davis said, had a lot to do with his decision to plead guilty. "I could see they had the straight stuff—almost exactly as it was pulled. I'm glad it's over with. I'll take the book (life imprisonment) and be done with the thing."

Some police officials expressed belief that fear of questioning in the George Weyerhaeuser kidnaping in Tacoma, Wash., might have influenced Davis' decision to end the government's case against him so quickly here.

Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

7-576-A

*E. J. Connelley*

Mr. Baughman  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
*B*  
MR. TOLSON  
MR. TRACY

CITY PRESS AND STAFF NEWS,  
Memphis City, Tennessee,  
June 4, 1935.

KARPIS, with aliases,  
I. O. 1218; et al.  
George Bremer - Victim  
NG.

*A*

Re: ALVIN KARPIS, with aliases,  
FUGITIVE, I. O. 1218; et al.  
Edward George Bremer - Victim  
KIDNAPING.

ST. PAUL, June 4. (AP)—A woman with whom he had been keeping company betrayed Volney Davis, Barker-Karpis gangster who pleaded guilty to conspiracy in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, it was learned from an authoritative source today.

Davis' arrest in Chicago brought the federal government's score in the \$200,000 abduction to nine in jail. Four others were dead, five were acquitted and eight were still at large.

Following a "tip" from a Chicago girl with whom Davis was seen on several occasions after his escape at Yorkville, Ill., where he slugged a federal agent with a beer mug, government officers maintained a trap for the gangster for a week.

They missed him on two occasions previous to his capture.

Davis, sweetheart of Edna Murray, "kissing bandit," who was freed of conspiracy charges in the kidnaping of the St. Paul banker and returned to a Missouri prison, had made arrangements with the girl to meet him at Austin, Ill., Chicago suburb, and authorities were informed of the proposed meeting.

Sentence will be pronounced on Davis in federal court Friday, with life imprisonment the possible penalty.

Davis' plea of guilty came as a surprise, the gangster asserting, "The minute they read that indictment I could see they knew as much about this kidnaping as I did. It's no use trying to beat these G-guys."

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ES

7-576-A

NY DAILY MIRROR

*JM*

Mr. Nathan	/
Mr. Tolson	/
Mr. E.A. Tamm	/
Chief Clerk	/
Mr. Clegg	/
Mr. Coffey	/
Mr. Glavin	/
Mr. Ladd	/
Mr. Nichols	/
Mr. Rosen	/
Mr. Tracy	/
Mr. Carson	/
Mr. Hendon	/
Mr. Quinn	/
Mr. Nease	/
Miss Gandy	/

*E*

*NES*

*R*

Later he said he had been reading accounts of the trial of some of the Barker-Karpis gang, and added "I decided that the Government knew just as much about the Bremer kidnaping as I did."

Now that Government interests itself in kidnaping, and some other racketeer crimes, criminals may as well realize that their choice is between the "hot seat" of the electric chair, and life imprisonment, unless they stay out of the "kidnaping-racket."

That seems to Kentucky a good idea. If it were tried in New York, it would be necessary for that great State to put in an order for about fifty more electric chairs. You may call such a law harsh, but what about capital punishment for horse-stealing? That was once considered just.

7-576-A

The Hon.  
Arthur Brisbane

# Girl Betrayed Karpis Gangster

Chicagoan Tipped Off Government on Davis, Wanted in Bremer Case.

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penalty. He is also a fugitive from the Oklahoma State Prison, where he was serving a sentence for murder.

## Karpis at Large.

Of the others arrested in the Bremer case, Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg have been sent to prison for life; John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, Elmer Farmer, Byron Bolton, Harold Alderton and James J. Wilson were awaiting sentence in the county jail here, and Harry Sawyer, alleged "finger man," still awaits trial.

At large were Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell, William Weaver, William Harrison, Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Mrs. Myrtle Eaton and two persons indicted as "John Doe and Richard Doe."

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Foxworth  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

25

7-576-A

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Baughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
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**POST OFFICE BOX 1987**

7-576-A

## Prisoner Reported Member of Noted Karpis Gang

To augment the mighty search that is being waged across the nation, Joseph E. P. Dunn, directing head of the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice at Los Angeles, arrived here early today by plane from Washington, D. C.

Mr. Dunn, who has been busy in Washington on a special assignment, was dispatched here to cooperate with E. J. Connelly, of the Chicago Department of Justice Bureau, by John Edgar Hoover, chief of the "G" men, who is directing all activities from his desk in the country's Capital.

Immediately afterward, however, the Department of Justice, augmented by scores of peace officers, began a thorough search of the brush-filled region near Issaquah, near which place—a small coal mining town—the child was released around 4 a. m. yesterday by his abductors.

They were believed to have received a secret tip which may lead them to one of the hideouts in which the child was chained and hidden for a portion of the time he was away.

From the child's own story authorities learned this vital piece of information:

Sometime during Friday night the kidnapers came to the little boy and began releasing the shackles that bound him.

"We're set—we've got the dough"—or words to that effect, the little boy overheard one of the kidnapers say.

A few minutes later the child, bundled in a blanket, was dumped into the trunk on the rear of the car.

He was driven "for a long, long time." Just before the child had been placed in the trunk he overheard one of the men say quite distinctly, no doubt so the child would hear and remember:

"We're gotta get away from Aberdeen."

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	28
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Smith	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

*Washington Herald  
Seattle - June 4, 1935*

7-576-A



Washington Herald

June 4, 1935.

# Today

**Biggest, Fastest,—Welcome  
Gangster Ingenuity  
Senator Borah's Speech  
Own Land, Best Property  
By ARTHUR BRISBANE**

In the line of viciousness, modern gangsters show ingenuity. Police give these details of the death of Danny Walsh, head of a bootleg-rum syndicate who was kidnaped, ransomed for \$40,000, later murdered. Enemies took him to sea in a boat, made him sit with his feet in a tub of wet cement, and watch while it hardened. He was then thrown overboard with the tub of cement hard around his feet. Several times while he watched the cement harden, it must have occurred to Danny Walsh that a criminal career is not profitable.

Sometimes gangsters show signs of intelligence. Volney Davis, arrested in Chicago in connection with the Bremer kidnaping, was "flown" to St. Paul, and, arriving there, confessed complicity in the kidnaping, saying to the judge:  
"I know I could not get away from the 'G-men'."

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Schmidt .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

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Washington Herald

June 4, 1935.

## VOLNEY DAVIS PLEADS GUILTY

ST. PAUL, Minn., June 4.—Volney Davis, Karpis-Barker gangster rushed here from Chicago by chartered plane, pleaded guilty today to conspiracy in the \$200,000 Edward G. Bremer kidnaping because "the Government knew as much about the Bremer kidnaping as I did."

Federal Judge Joyce deferred sentence. Davis explained with a sickly grin:

"I pleaded guilty to the conspiracy charge because I knew I couldn't beat the G-men. I've been thinking of doing this for some time after reading accounts of the trial of several of the so-called Karpis-Barker gang members. I decided the Government knew just as much about the Bremer kidnaping as I did."

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Baughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Scheidt  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

*Files*

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## Davis Awaits Fate for Bremer Crime

By United Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Volney Davis, Alvin Karpis' lieutenant who pleaded guilty to charges of conspiracy in the \$200,000 Bremer kidnaping because "You can't beat those 'G'-men," awaited his fate today.

The tough, little outlaw, worn with the strain of fleeing from Federal men who finally trapped him in Chicago Saturday, will be sentenced for the Bremer crime later in the week.

Five others also will be sentenced: John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, Harold Alderton, James J. Wilson, Byron Bolton and Elmer Farmer. Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg already have been sentenced to life imprisonment.

*Enghart*

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

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WASH. NEWS

*ES*

1935

# **"Big Shot" Gangsters Practically Erased; Only Karpis Is Left**

CHICAGO, June 5.—(AP)—With virtually every powerful gang of yesterday smashed by violent death and speedy conviction, the public enemy list Wednesday was reduced to a few small fry in remote hideouts.

The arrest of Joe Fox, 32, one of the original Dillinger mob, Tuesday, wrote finis to that gang.

Only last week, federal agents in Chicago took Volney Davis, Karpis-Barker gangster wanted for the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, to reduce that once feared snatch mob to a mere handful. Alvin Karpis remained the only big shot of the mob still sought. The other seven named in the indictment were comparatively unheard of minor members.

Significant also has been the manner in which the few remaining hoodlums have been taken. Despite their frequent boasts they would never be taken alive, many of them have been captured without a struggle.

Fox and Davis both were armed when taken but neither attempted to shoot it out.

ATLANTA, GA. ATLANTA JOURNAL  
JUNE 5, 1935

RE: ALVIN KARPIS, with aliases, FUGITIVE, I.O. 1218;  
ET AL; EDWARD GEORGE BREMER-Victim; KIDNAPING;  
HARBORING; OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE; NATIONAL FIREARMS  
ACT.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

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9-576

CLEVELAND NEWS

June 3, 1935

## Trapped Karpis Aide Admits Guilt in Bremer Kidnaping

ST. PAUL, Minn.—(AP)—Volney Davis, 33, considered by police one of the most dangerous members of the Karpis-Barker gang, pleaded guilty here today to a part in the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker.

On motion of George F. Sullivan, United States district attorney, sentencing of Davis was deferred, without a definite date being set for it. It was indicated that sentence might be passed Friday or Saturday.

Davis formally admitted his guilt a few hours after he had been brought here by plane, under a heavy guard of special agents of the U. S. department of justice.

His capture—he was seized Saturday in Chicago—had been an-

nounced only a few minutes before Davis came into court.

Davis was arraigned before Federal Judge M. M. Joyce, in the same courtroom where Arthur (Doc) Barker was convicted of engineering the Bremer kidnaping.

Davis admitted writing the ransom notes while the banker was a prisoner. His capture in Chicago, where he walked into a carefully laid trap, leaves only one important member of the gang at large—Alvin "Bo" Karpis, unofficial Public Enemy No. 1.

Arraignment of Davis was taken as indicating federal agents did not believe he had any part in the kidnaping of George Weyerhaeuser of Tacoma, who was released after Davis' capture.

Mr. Nathan	_____
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Mr. Coffey	_____
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Mr. Quinn	_____
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Mr. Schilder	_____
Mr. Smith	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

## 'G' Men Flying— Captive West

CHICAGO, June 2—(Universal)—Captured after being fired upon by government men, a man believed to be Volney Davis, important figure in the Alvin Karpis kidnaping gang, tonight was loaded into an airplane at the municipal airport and speeded away to the West.

Authorities considered the reported capture of Davis to be the first important development in the nationwide hunt for the kidnapers of nine year old George Weyerhaeuser for \$200,000 ransom, which was paid in Tacoma, Wash.

### SEEN IN TACOMA.

Residents of Tacoma had reported seeing Davis on the streets there before and during the time the Weyerhaeuser boy was held. He was identified positively as the man who attempted to rent an apartment in Tacoma on May 25.

Davis was fired on and seized at 8 p. m. Saturday in Austin, by eight government men armed with machine guns and shotguns, it was heard in authoritative sources. However, the department of justice had kept the arrest secret until today.

### MANACLED AND GUARDED.

The man believed to be Davis was in handcuffs and guarded by four heavily armed government agents upon arriving at the airport tonight at 7:45 (C. S. T.) The agents went to the Bluebird air line hangar, chartered a plane and entered it with their prisoner.

There was speculation over whether he was being taken to St. Paul, where he is under indictment for the \$200,000 Edward G. Bremer kidnaping of a year ago, or to Tacoma.

It was considered probable that if Davis were taken to Tacoma he might be recognized by the kidnap victim.

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Mr. Nathan .....
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Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
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Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Schilder .....
Mr. Schiller .....
Mr. Smith .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....

MILWAUKEE SENTINEL  
JUNE 3, 1935



# KARPIS' AID PLEADS GUILTY IN BREMER 'SNATCHING' CASE

By International News Service.

LOS ANGELES, June 3 — A small tan sedan, carrying no license plates, and answering the description of a machine reported to be carrying two heavily armed men southward was found abandoned early today in Hollywood.

The car showed evidence of hard travel and all identification marks had been removed. Officers called for fingerprint experts to examine the doors and steering wheel.

Although the car was not the type of automobile in which the Weyerhaeuser kidnapers fled Tacoma, officers started an immediate search for the men.

## Delay Sentence Officers Stop To End of Week Every Auto

By International News Service.

ST. PAUL, June 3—Volney Davis, member of the Barker-Karpis gang, today pleaded guilty to conspiracy in the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul bank president.

Davis was taken before Federal Judge M. M. Joyce when he told federal agents he intended to plead guilty to the charge. It had been planned to take the prisoner before the United States commissioner following several hours of questioning at the office of H. E. Anderson, in charge of the St.

By HAROLD HEROUX,

International News Service Staff  
Correspondent.

Copyright, 1935.

TACOMA, Wash., June 3—A new blockade on all roads between Tacoma and Portland, Ore., was established today as law enforcement authorities worked vigorously on a "tip" that members of the gang that kidnaped George Weyerhaeuser for \$200,000 ransom were attempting a flight south.

Extra officers patrolled the highways and every machine was stopped for full identification of drivers and passengers.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Seaboard	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

WISCONSIN NEWS  
JUNE 3, 1935

(OVER)

#### SENTENCE DELAYED

Sentence of the gangster was deferred until next Friday or Saturday, Judge Joyce announced.

Davis is the eighth member of the gang to face a long prison term in connection with the Bremer kidnapping, which occurred in January, 1934. The dapper machine-gunning ex-convict is believed to have participated in the actual kidnapping of the banker.

Davis was taken into custody in Chicago last Friday. Belying earlier reports, the gangster was reported to have surrendered to federal agents there.

#### HAIR TURNS GRAY.

Lending credence to this latter development was the fact that Davis' hair which formerly had been coal black, had turned gray during the past three months, supposedly from worry. The tips of his fingers were mutilated, apparently in an effort to avoid identification from finger prints.

Davis is 35 and weighs only 125 pounds. It was while in the Oklahoma penitentiary that he met the leaders and members of the Barker-Karpis gang. He was known to have been in St. Paul immediately after the Bremer kidnapping, sharing an apartment with Edna "Rabbits" Murray, Kansas City's "kissing bandit."

### Two Men Are Jailed In Mystery Slaying

MADISON, Ill., June 3 — (AP) — With two suspects under arrest, county authorities today were working on the theory that Vincent Dvoracek, 32, was murdered and then hanged from a rafter in a shed in the rear of his home to divert suspicion.

Dvoracek, who lived alone, was found yesterday by two neighbors. He had apparently been dead for two days.

### Madison Girl Dies As Result of Burns

MADISON, Wis., June 3 — (AP) — Burns received when her dress caught fire from a match with which she was playing resulted in death here yesterday for Donna Jean Andrews, four year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold R. Andrews.

men, equipped with machine guns, rifles and revolvers, were on duty.

#### DAVIS IDENTIFIED

Department of justice agents refused to give any information regarding the arrest of Volney Davis, Karpis mobster, in Chicago, and the secret flight of Chicago G men with their prisoner to St. Paul, Minn.

Davis had been identified by several persons as the man who, with an unidentified woman, inspected an apartment here recently near the Weyerhaeuser home.

Other persons also declared they had seen Davis on a Tacoma-Seattle bus.

The Pacific Northwest, enraged over the successful \$200,000 kidnapping, has accepted the invasion of the "Egoist" gang, as a challenge of war—a war against crime.

#### "PERFECT CRIME."

Department of justice agents believed the Weyerhaeuser kidnapping was the work of a cunning, professional criminal gang which combined the "best links" of the Bremer, Urschel, Robles and other kidnappings to produce a "perfect crime."

G men were convinced they can smash the case that has been a "perfect crime" since last Friday dawn when the ransom was paid for the release of the nine year old curly haired scion of Mr. and Mrs. (Please turn to Page 2, Column 2.)

### Sweepstake Winners In U. S. Get \$440,900

DUBLIN, Irish Free State, June 3 — (AP) — Americans won £88,320 (about \$440,900) today in the second day's draw of the Irish Free State Hospital Sweepstakes, getting 457 of the 1,100 consolation prizes and seven of the 10 residual prizes. The residual prizes are worth a total of £42,630 (about \$212,750).

### City Agent to Attend Washington Parley

Joseph W. Nicholson, city purchasing agent, will go to Washington Thursday for a meeting of the consumers' advisory board, which will plan for continuation of NRA specifications and requirements for manufacturers to meet.

# Public Enemy List Cut to Small Fry

## SEIZE LAST DILLINGER GANGSTER

Federal Drive Reduced  
Famed Mobs to Mere  
Handful.

By Associated Press.

CHICAGO, June 5 — With virtually every powerful gang of yesteryear smashed by a made to order depression of violent death and speedy conviction, the public enemy list today was reduced to a few small fry in remote hideouts.

The arrest yesterday of Joe Fox, 32, one of the original Dillinger mob, wrote final to that gang.

Only last week, federal agents in Chicago took Volney Davis, Karpis-Barker gangster wanted for the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, to reduce that once feared mob to a mere handful. Alvin Karpis remained the only big shot of the gang still sought. The other seven named in the indictment were minor figures.

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
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Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

### MAKE NO STRUGGLE

Significant also has been the manner in which the few remaining hoodlums have been taken. Despite their frequent boasts they would never be taken alive, many of them have been captured without a struggle.

Fox and Davis both were armed when taken, but neither attempted to shoot it out. Davis previously arrested several months ago, escaped from federal men at Yorkville, Ill., by slugging his guard over the head with a beer mug. Brought to St. Paul for arraignment Monday he pleaded guilty, saying:

"The minute they read that indictment I could see they knew as much about this kidnaping as I did. It's no use trying to beat these G-men."

### ONLY JOHN HAMILTON

Of the Dillinger mob, only John Hamilton was still at large. Dillinger died in a trap set by Chicago federal men on Chicago's North Side. Harry Pierpont was electrocuted, Charles Mackley shot and killed in an escape attempt. Russell Clark is now serving life imprisonment, Joe Jenkins was slain by a posse, and the other members have been arrested and returned to prison.

Baby Face Nelson, a Dillinger lieutenant, who sought to reorganize remnants of the mob, also ended at the hands of the authorities in suburban Barrington.

# TULSA SLAYING MAY LINK TRIO OF KIDNAPINGS

**Volney Davis, Karpis  
Weyerhaeuser  
Suspects.**

TULSA, Okla., June 2—(AP)—The slaying of an obscure criminal lawyer here in 1932 may furnish a link connecting the Charles F. Urschel, William G. Bremer and George Weyerhaeuser kidnappings.

Already found strangely similar in several respects, the Weyerhaeuser kidnaping drew nearer the nation's previous \$200,000 extortion cases through tentative identification of Volney Davis near the scene of the crime in Tacoma, Wash.

J. Earle Smith, the attorney, paid one visit to Harvey Bailey at Fort Scott, Kas., in August, 1932, and refused to return to defend him in a bank robbery trial.

The next night Smith's bullet-riddled body was found near the Indian Hills Country club here.

Harry Campbell and Volney Davis were among those sought.

It was the belief of officers Smith was slain at the behest of Bailey.

Bailey was convicted of the robbery, escaped from Lansing, Kas., prison and was captured later at the Paradise, Tex., farm where Urschel was held captive. Bailey now is in Alcatraz prison, serving a life sentence.

Campbell and Davis were known to officers as associates of Alvin Karpis, current "Public Enemy No. 1," and the Barker brothers, Fred and Arthur.

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
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Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
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Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

MILWAUKEE SENTINAL  
JUNE 3, 1935

N.Y.

DAILY NEWS, SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1935

# DAVIS IS GIVEN LIFE IN BREMER KIDNAPING

St. Paul, Minn., June 7 (P).—Volney Davis, who pleaded guilty Monday to conspiracy in the \$200,000 Edward G. Bremer kidnaping, after his capture in Chicago, was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Leavenworth Penitentiary in Federal Court here late today.

John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, 68, former Chicago politician, was sentenced to five years in Leavenworth Prison as a conspirator by Federal Judge M. M. Joyce.

McLaughlin was accused of engineering the "peddling" of \$57,000 of ransom money.

Harold Alderton, in whose home at Bensenville, Ill., Bremer was kept prisoner for twenty-one days, was sentenced to twenty-one years in Leavenworth.

McLaughlin and Alderton, to-

gether with Arthur (Doc) Barker, James J. Wilson and Oliver Berg were convicted by a jury. Barker and Berg previously were given life terms.

Elmer Farmer, tavern keeper of Bensenville who assisted in making arrangements with the kidnapers for Alderton's home, and who pleaded guilty during the trial, was sentenced to 20 years in Leavenworth.

(Picture on page 1)

Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Baughman .....
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
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Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....



Wash Times 5-30-35

# KARPIS AIDE, WOMAN LINKED TO KIDNAPING C.

## RENTED TACOMA APARTMENT SUNDAY

One of the country's foremost writers, Courtney Ryley Cooper, who has made a special study of the crime situation and who is thoroughly conversant with the workings of "gang" men, today writes the second of a series of articles about the Weyerhaeuser kidnaping case for International News Service.

By COURTNEY RYLEY COOPER  
(Copyright, 1935, by International News Service)

TACOMA, Wash., May 30 (I.N.S.).—There have been three positive identifications which definitely name the mob of Alvin Karpis, Public Enemy No. 1, as the kidnapers of George Weyerhaeuser, the nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Weyerhaeuser, of Tacoma.

These identifications place Volney Davis, who recently escaped from special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation while being taken to St. Paul for trial in the Bremer kidnaping case, as having been seen in this city shortly after the abduction of the Tacoma boy.

In addition there have been a dozen other developments to establish what appears to be a definite connection between the St. Paul kidnaping of Bremer and the one which has again caused a fear of the body-snatcher to stalk America.

### Two Cases Linked

It also has been ascertained that the person who wrote the ransom note which demanded

\$200,000 of George Weyerhaeuser's parents, either was a party to the writing of the ransom in the St. Paul case or so familiar with the phrasology and the general modus operandi that he could repeat the most important part, word for word.

The evidence revealed today to members of the Federal Bureau of Investigation is the strongest yet presented, tending to show that the abduction of the Tacoma child was a professional job and that it was done by the gang of the most desperate man in America.

Even his closest pals call America's Public Enemy No. One "Old Creepy" but they do that behind his back. Alvin Karpis has been described by the United States Department of Justice as the "most dangerous, the most resourceful and shrewdest criminal in the history of gangdom."

However, if he kidnaped George Weyerhaeuser he made one mistake which labelled him even as strongly as the three positive identifications have labelled his confederate, Volney Davis, as having spent more than an hour last Sunday in an apartment house in a better residential district of Tacoma. His picture has been picked from a number of others. Three persons have said: "That is the man. He was in this building. He rented an apartment here, stayed an hour, then disappeared."

### WOMAN WITH HIM

With the man described as Volney Davis was a woman who, during this mysterious hour spent in the apartment, calmly manicured her nails, and read from three newspapers, dating from the day of the kidnaping through Sunday morning. These were left behind when the pair vanished, as was a magazine which has been sent to Washington in the hope the experts of the crime laboratory may develop from it the fingerprints of the muchly wanted fugitives.

The identifications were made by Clarence G. Reed, superintendent of the apartment build-

ing at 318 South Eleventh St., by his wife and by the housekeeper, Mrs. Harry Gunnell.

According to their story, the man described as Davis came to the building in the morning and stated that he desired to rent an apartment. He was shown several in the building, none of which appeared to suit him until the superintendent showed him one in the rear of the first floor.

This apparently was what the man sought. He announced he would return with his wife, who would make the final decision. There would be "some other people running in and out," he said.

### Surprising Actions

The return was made with a dark-haired woman of medium build, her dress covered by a light three-quarter length coat. She agreed to the rental and asked the usual feminine questions about the new apartment. Meanwhile the man did some surprising things.

First of all, he moved two large chairs which stood before two of the windows. Then he raised a window and leaned out, surreptitiously measuring the distance to the ground. It was done quickly, almost casually. Few persons would have noticed it. Only the fact a dweller sought by creditors once had left the building by jumping out a first floor window brought the attention of the superintendent to the action.

Following this, the man opened the door of an "indoor bed" and stepping quickly to it, slanted a visual line from it to the apartment entrance. It satisfied him.

A survey of the apartment shows that anyone reclining on the left side of the bed would have full view of the door, and that were this person to be a desperate criminal he could easily command that ingress from a bed with a machine gun.

It will be remembered that following the killing of Fred Barker and Ma Barker, members of what

was then known as the Barker-Karpis gang, Alvin Karpis (Old Creepy) and a pal, Harry Campbell, were surprised by police in an Atlantic City hotel room. Campbell at that time was in bed, dressed only in underwear. Only through a desperate machine gun rush did the men gain their liberty. Evidently "Old Creepy" has ordered that avenues of escape hereafter be guarded.

All this was happening while the superintendent explained to the woman, as yet unidentified, the usual details of light, heat and water, and while the housekeeper delivered linens and dishes. The superintendent reported to his wife:

"That's a funny acting couple."

But an apartment house superintendent becomes accustomed to "funny acting people." Besides, the couple now were residents and there would be plenty of time to study them later. The man had said that as soon as the apartment was straightened up a bit he and his wife would go for their baggage and upon their return pay a month's rent.

They left the apartment and have not come back.

Were this the extent of the bits of evidence which today pointed strongly to Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell, Volney Davis and an unknown woman as the mainsprings of the most spectacular kidnaping since the Lindbergh case, it would be worth nothing.

The natural assumption would be the man and woman were merely engaged in a liaison at the expense of an innocent apartment house superintendent. The three apartment house attendants insist there were no evidences to support this theory, and in addition point insistently to the middle figure of a group photograph of Karpis, Davis and Campbell, saying:

"That is the man, the one in the center. I am positive of that."

Their physical description of the man also agreed with that of Davis.

This is only the beginning of an amazing mass of circumstantial evidence pointing to "Old Creepy" and his gang. First of all, there is the crime itself. Why, for instance, should America's Public Enemy No. 1 come, for no reason whatever, into a town far from his usual run of acquaintanceship and kidnap the child of a man of whom he never had heard?

Kidnapings are carefully planned affairs. There must be a finger man; there must be preparations; there must be hide-outs and confederates and accomplices.

It would seem impossible to the average person that such conditions could exist in Tacoma for a man like Alvin Karpis and his crowd, Middle Westerners by birth, with former headquarters in Kansas City and St. Paul.

### Definite Tieup

The truth is there is a definite tieup between Tacoma and St. Paul and between the kidnaping of Edward Bremer in the Minnesota city and the kidnaping of George Weyerhaeuser in Tacoma, and even a faint one leading to the only other \$200,000 kidnaping in the recent history of snatchers and that of Charles F. Urschel of Oklahoma City.

These are so clearly defined as to be almost irrefutable and they are so numerous they must be tabulated in the briefest possible form.

The finger man who caused the snatch of Edward Bremer in St. Paul had known him upon a business basis for more than eight years. During that time it was almost impossible for him not to know much about the Weyerhaeuser family.

The home of Frederick Weyerhaeuser, grand uncle of the kidnaped boy, is in Minnesota. The Weyerhaeuser fortune is rooted in lumber companies and their subsidiaries which operate from St. Paul and Tacoma. Likewise, the interests of Edward Bremer extend westward.

The city of Bremerton, Wash., where two of the kidnapers are believed to have purchased emergency clothing for the kidnaped child, was named after a close relative of the St. Paul Edward Bremer. Both the Weyerhaeusers and Bremer fortunes started in lumber.

George (Machine Gun) Kelly hid out in Tacoma for some time before he took part in the kidnaping of Charles Urschel. Kelly, Alvin Karpis and Harvey Bailey, now doing life on Alcatraz Island for the Urschel snatch, were associates, within the last few years.

There have been several major confidence jobs in Tacoma, allegedly committed by men belonging to a ring of counterfeiters working out of Reno, Nev., for several years, which has been a landing spot for "Old Creepy" and his gang; the entire mob hurried there after the Bremer kidnaping and for months hid out in the Nevada city.

Also, comparatively close by, the Karpis crowd has on several occasions used a hide-out in Montana. A member of the mob once ran a dance hall there and still has an interest in it.

Edward Bremer was kidnaped in the morning, shortly after he had taken his 8-year-old daughter to school. George Weyerhaeuser was kidnaped at noon on his way home from school.

The St. Paul Weyerhaeusers are said by citizens of Tacoma to be even more prominently identified with the vast lumber interests than the Pacific Coast family. It is asserted that much of the ransom money raised by the family to pay the demanded \$200,000 came from St. Paul.

Continuing, there have been repeated statements that the Weyerhaeuser child was seen in a car with three men and a woman. Three men and a woman stand out prominently in the Alvin Karpis gang—Harry Campbell, Volney Davis, "Old Creepy" himself, and the unidentified woman.

The renting of the apartment

was a typical Karpis job. It was done in the Karpis crowd. The Karpis crowd is a job is pulled. If it is done, the gang



Mr. Nathan	✓
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Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Scheidt	✓
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Smith	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

ST. PAUL--VOLNEY DAVIS PLEADED GUILTY WHEN ARRAIGNED BEFORE JUDGE M. M. JOYCE IN FEDERAL COURT TODAY ON CHARGES OF PARTICIPATING IN THE \$200,000 KIDNAPING OF EDWARD G. BREMER.

6/3--21130A C-0

7-576-A

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	✓
Chief Clerk	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Gurnea	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Hendon	✓
Mr. Jones	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

MINNEAPOLIS--VOLNEY DAVIS, SUSPECT IN THE EDWARD G. BREMER AND GEORGE  
 MEYERHAEUSER KIDNAPINGS, WAS BROUGHT HERE AT 5:00 A.M. FROM CHICAGO  
 WHERE HE WAS CAPTURED BY FEDERAL AGENTS, IT WAS REPORTED AUTHORITATIVELY  
 TODAY.

6/3--R915A C-0

7-576-A

# Gangster Files Plea of Guilty In Bremer Case

Davis, Facing Life Term in  
Kidnaping, Is 'Glad to  
Get It Off His Chest.'

By the Associated Press.

St. Paul, Minn., June 3.—Glad, he said, to "get it off his chest," Volney Davis, known to Department of Justice agents as one of the slipperiest and toughest members of the Barker-Karpis mob, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to kidnap Edward G. Bremer for \$200,000 today.

"It's no use trying to beat these G-guys," said Davis, after pleading before Federal Judge M. M. Joyce.

He will be sentenced Friday, with life imprisonment the possible penalty. He was accused of being one of the St. Paul banker's actual kidnapers.

"They had it on me," Davis added. "The minute they read that indictment I could see they knew as much about this kidnaping as I did."

Details brought out by the Government in the trial of Arthur (Doc) Barker, Davis said, had a lot to do with his decision to plead guilty. "I could see they had the straight stuff—almost exactly as it was pulled. I'm glad it's over with. I'll take the book (life imprisonment) and be done with the thing."

While life is the maximum sentence that can be imposed on Davis in Minnesota, the State of Washington, where 9-year-old George Weyerhaeuser was abducted and freed upon payment of \$200,000 ransom, provides death by hanging upon conviction of kidnap charges.

Some police officials expressed belief that fear of questioning in the Weyerhaeuser abduction might have influenced Davis' decision and the Government's case against him so quickly.

But Federal officials said they were convinced Davis had no connection with the Weyerhaeuser case. They said he was known to have been in the Chicago area, where he was arrested Saturday, the entire week of the West Coast abduction.

Davis pleaded guilty in the same courtroom in which his boyhood schoolmate and later underworld pal, Doc Barker, recently was convicted of the same charge for the Bremer abduction last year. Their associate, Alvin Karpis, Public Enemy No. 1, is still sought in the case and has been mentioned as a suspect in the Tacoma kidnap.

Nabbed in Chicago amid "a little unpleasantness," as J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Bureau of Investigation, at Washington, described it, Davis was brought to Minneapolis in a chartered air-

*Eugene*

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	✓
Chief Clerk	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Edwards	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Keith	✓
Mr. Lester	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Schell	✓
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Smith	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*RA*

7-576-A

# Davis Pleads Guilty in Bremer Kidnap Plot

ST. PAUL, June 3.—(AP)—Gripped hard by law he had dodged so long, Volney Davis, 33, one of the Barker-Karpis kidnap gang, pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges in connection with the \$200,000 Bremer abduction case today.

Arraigned before Federal Judge M. M. Joyce, the fugitive gangster listened to the lengthy reading of the indictment in the same courtroom in which his erstwhile pal, Arthur (Doc) Barker, recently was convicted of kidnap Edward G. Bremer, wealthy St. Paul banker, last year.

At the conclusion of the reading Davis himself answered "guilty." He was not represented by counsel.

Davis was rushed here by airplane from Chicago early today.

Reports at Tacoma, Wash., that Davis had been seen there on Saturday—adding to suspicion that he may have been involved in the \$200,000 ransom of George Weyerhaeuser—were refuted by the arrest, but Hoover declined comment on the Weyerhaeuser case.

## CONFIRMS SHOOTING.

Confirming reports that the arrest of Davis followed a shooting affray, Hoover said:

"We had a slight unpleasantness while taking Volney into custody."

He declined, however, to reveal more details.

Heavily shackled and manacled, Davis landed at the Minneapolis Airport at 5:15 a. m. today, accompanied by seven federal agents. Six others from the local office met the plane and, after being bundled into an automobile, Davis was brought to the federal department in St. Paul.

The first inkling that Davis was in custody came when Chicago Airport employees reported that a group of armed federal men escorted a man who answered the description of Davis to the field and hustled him aboard a privately-chartered plane which took off immediately.

Davis was arrested by federal agents last February, but made a

spectacular break at Yorkville, Ill., by striking his guard over the head with a beer stein and jumping through a window.

## SEIZED IN AUSTIN.

He was rearrested Saturday in Chicago near Thomas st. and Waller av., in suburban Austin, in a carefully laid trap. Several shots were reported fired.

Davis began his career of crime when he joined the Karpis-Barker gang of bandits, perpetrators of an almost endless list of robberies, shootings, kidnappings and murders, and he is one of the few members of the gang living.

Thirteen aliases served Davis at one time or another during his brushes with the law. He was born at Tahlequah, Okla., in 1902. He was slight of build, standing 5 feet, 8½ inches tall and weighing only 125 pounds.

Volney Davis, one of the Bremer kidnapers, was captured Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock by "G-men" in front of 1046 Waller av. He pleaded guilty today at St. Paul.

Trapped, he tried to escape but a volley of shots in his direction brought his surrender.

## CHILLS KARPIS THEORY.

WASHINGTON, June 3.—(AP)—There was evidence in federal quarters today that a "local Northwest Pacific gang," rather than survivors of the Barker-Karpis mob, is suspected of the \$200,000 Weyerhaeuser abduction at Tacoma, Wash.

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the bureau of investigation, refused to comment, but other federal sources indicated that the arrest of Volney Davis, member of the Barker-Karpis gang, at Chicago Saturday had thrown cold water on theories that this group was involved.

Witnesses had reported seeing Davis at Tacoma, but observers were inclined to class this as a physical impossibility. They pointed out the actual Weyerhaeuser kidnaper may purposely have directed suspicion on the Karpis mob by handing the boy victim newspaper accounts which stressed the theory and by "borrowing" firearms the boy said they used.

Mr. Tolson.....  
Mr. Baughman.....  
Chief Clerk.....  
Mr. Clegg.....  
Mr. Coffey.....  
Mr. Edwards.....  
Mr. Egan.....  
Mr. Harbo.....  
Mr. Keith.....  
Mr. Lester.....  
Mr. Quinn.....  
Mr. Schilder.....  
Mr. Smith.....  
Mr. Tamm.....  
Mr. Tracy.....  
Miss Gandy.....

7-576-A

THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

JUN 3 1935

# U. S. REVEALS RANSOM BILL NUMBERS

Complete List Sent  
to Every Bank  
in Nation.

*Volney Davis, Barker-Karpis gangster, pleaded guilty in the Bremer kidnaping today. Other details of this and the Weyerhaeuser abduction on Page 2.*

WASHINGTON, June 3.—(By International News Service.)—Official announcement was made here today by the Department of Justice that the numbers on the federal reserve notes that comprised the Weyerhaeuser ransom money have been circularized to all banks, clearing houses and other places of money exchange.

Virtually all the \$5, \$10 and \$20 bills that made up the \$200,000 ransom were notes in the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank.

The department also made public a copy of the kidnaping note which was sent the Weyerhaeuser family by special delivery on May 2, at Tacoma. It was signed "Goist."

## COVERS 55 PAGES

The listing of the numbered ransom bills comprised fifty-five mimeographed pages.

The numbers were listed in sequence, but were not consecutively numbered, such as two following one, or three following two.

There were nine United States notes of \$5 denomination included in the ransom money, which altogether would weigh more than forty pounds.

The reserve notes all carried the first letter symbol "L" and the final symbol "A," save a few that were marked with a final asterisk in place of the A.

## NUMBERS LISTED

The first of the \$20 bills listed was L00000034A, the next L00003778, with an asterisk after the final digit.

The final \$20 note's number was listed as L18015891A. Thus all of the \$100,000 in \$20 notes fall between the number L00000034A and L18015891A.

The first of the \$10 denominations, of which there are \$50,000 in all, carried the serial number L00001185. With an asterisk after the final digit. The second \$10 note listed carried the number L00087602, with an asterisk. The last number in the \$10 series was L20865471A.

The first of the \$5 reserve notes was numbered L00222535, with an asterisk. The second, L00232450, with an asterisk. The last in this series was L35979275A.

## NINE U. S. NOTES

The nine U. S. notes of \$5 denomination were numbered:

G C38404177A, H C47728772A, C632564111A, K C6508079A, K C633271A, C C89925071A, E C7532637A, D C75274984A, I C89234319A.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Kirtz	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schmitt	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

7-576-A 55

THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

JUN 3 1935



Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Baughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Foxworth  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Mumford  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

# VOLNEY DAVIS, KARPIS' OUTLAW PAL, CAPTURED

**Rushed from City by  
Agents in Plane.**

(Picture on back page.)  
Volney Davis, ex-convict, lieutenant of Alvin Karpis and indicted with him in the \$200,000 Bremer kidnaping, is believed to be the mysterious prisoner who was hustled out of Chicago by airplane yesterday under a heavy guard of department of justice agents. The destination of the plane, a specially chartered ship, was kept secret, but it was reported to be bound for St. Paul, where Davis is wanted for trial as one of the actual kidnapers of Edward G. Bremer, millionaire banker. There were reports, however, that the prisoner was being taken to Kansas City. Five other members of the Karpis gang were convicted of complicity in

the kidnaping by a federal court jury in St. Paul two weeks ago. Karpis, the gang chief, is still at large and is being hunted as a suspect in the \$200,000 kidnaping of George Weyerhaeuser, boy heir to a lumber fortune at Tacoma, Wash.  
**Blow to Tacoma Theory.**  
Volney Davis was also identified tentatively as one of the Weyerhaeuser kidnapers, but his capture here would tend to eliminate him as a suspect.  
Melvin Purvis, local head of the department of justice operatives, made the customary refusal to "either affirm or deny" that Davis, who escaped federal custody in a spectacular break at Yorkville, Ill., last February, has been retaken.  
However, newspaper men at the Municipal airport identified the slight, nattily dressed prisoner as the hoodlum Davis.  
Indications were that Davis was captured by government men last Friday near the corner of Thomas street and Waller avenue, in a carefully laid trap.  
On that day Austin police received a report of a shooting at that corner. When they arrived they found only

a crowd of spectators, who told the story of what had happened.  
A man, riding in a coupe bearing Georgia license plates, pulled up at the corner, and alighted from the machine. In a moment, witnesses said, some seven men leaped from places of concealment. Their quarry started to run but a single shot in the air brought him to a halt. He was then driven away by his captors in the automobile which he had been driving.  
**Excitement At U. S. Offices.**  
There was a considerable flurry of excitement yesterday on the nineteenth floor of the Bankers' building, where the department of justice offices are located.  
Volney Davis gained his first notoriety when he was sentenced to the Oklahoma state prison for murder, where, it is believed, he first met Karpis. Davis escaped from the prison in 1925, but was recaptured.  
On Nov. 3, 1932, he was granted a "leave of absence" until July 1, 1933. This was extended an additional year, and since that time he has been listed as a fugitive.  
Davis was captured early in February in Kansas City, and was being

brought to Chicago by airplane. Near Yorkville the plane was forced down, and Davis and his captors went to the Hotel Nading.  
While one of the agents was phoning, Davis persuaded the other to buy him a glass of beer. The prisoner then dashed the beer into his guard's face, leaped from a window and escaped.



**IN U. S. HANDS—Vol-**  
ney Davis, ex-convict, be-  
lieved to be man seized by  
agents here Friday.

7-576-A



Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Baughman .....
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
Mr. Harbo .....
Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Schell .....
Mr. Seidler .....
Mr. Smith .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....

## Volney Davis Pleads Guilty in Bremer Case

Volney Davis, pal of Alvin Karpis, public enemy No. 1, was captured Saturday by federal agents in Chicago after a shooting affray and rushed by airplane to St. Paul to stand trial in the \$200,000 Bremer kidnaping. J. Edgar Hoover, director of the division of investigation, announced at Washington today.

Hoover's announcement cleared up the mystery surrounding the seizure of a man following the firing of several shots in North Waller avenue in the Austin police district. Davis was taken to court, where he pleaded guilty to conspiracy. Sentence was deferred.

Heavily chained and manacled, Davis was accompanied by seven federal agents whose forces were augmented by six Minneapolis officers as the ship arrived. He was

carried from the plane by officers to a waiting automobile and chained to the floorboard of the machine, then was rushed to St. Paul. All the movements of the agents were carefully

fully guarded. Capt. Willard Malone received reports of the capture and the shooting attending it, but not from the federal agents, who arrested Davis after firing a few shots at Thomas street and Waller avenue.

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7-576-A

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

JUN 8 1935

**June 3, 1935**

## Feds Seize Kidnaping Suspect in Chicago; Fly West With Him

(Copyright, 1935, by Universal Service and  
Chicago Herald Examiner.)

Authorities considered the reported capture of Davis to be the first important development in the nationwide hunt for the kidnapers of 9-year-old George Weyerhaeuser for \$200,000 ransom, which was paid near Tacoma, Wash.

Devis was fired on and seized at 3 p. m. Saturday in Austin, by eight government men armed with machine guns and shotguns, it was heard in authoritative sources.

There was speculation over whether Davis was being taken to St. Paul, where he is under indictment for the \$200,000 Edward G. Bremer kidnaping of a year ago or to Tacoma.

It was considered probable that if Davis were taken to Tacoma he might be recognized by the boy kidnapping victim. Davis is small in stature, of vacant expression and with watery blue eyes.

Mr. Nelson  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Baughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

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Kansas City Times  
 Kansas City, Missouri  
 June 3, 1935

Mr. Nathan .....  
 Mr. Tolson .....  
 Mr. Baughman .....  
 Chief Clerk .....  
 Mr. Clegg .....  
 Mr. Coffey .....  
 Mr. Egan .....  
 Mr. Fox .....  
 Mr. Glavin .....  
 Mr. Ladd .....  
 Mr. Nichols .....  
 Mr. Rosen .....  
 Mr. Tracy .....  
 Mr. Carson .....  
 Mr. Hendon .....  
 Mr. Jones .....  
 Mr. Quinn .....  
 Mr. Nease .....  
 Mr. Gurnea .....  
 Mr. Harbo .....  
 Mr. Mohr .....  
 Mr. Pennington .....  
 Mr. Nease .....  
 Mr. Gurnea .....  
 Mr. Harbo .....  
 Mr. Mohr .....  
 Mr. Pennington .....

## U. S. MAY HAVE VOLNEY DAVIS

Agents and Prisoner Said to Have  
 Left Chicago in Plane.

SAYS PRISONER IS DAVIS.

(By the Associated Press.)

CHICAGO, June 3 (Monday).—The Chicago Herald and Examiner today said in a copyrighted story that Volney Davis, desperado of the Alvin Karpis kidnap gang, was a federal prisoner.

The authorities considered, the newspaper said, the capture was the first important development in the hunt for the kidnapers of George Weyerhaeuser.

The Herald and Examiner account said the man was seized after several shots had been fired, adding that Davis was rushed to the Municipal Airport and bundled into a plane.

(By the Associated Press.)

TACOMA, WASH., June 2.—The arrest in Chicago of Volney Davis, top lieutenant in Alvin Karpis's gang of midwestern hoodlums, was reported here tonight as federal agents began a roundup of persons suspected in the \$200,000 ransom kidnaping of little George Weyerhaeuser.

Federal operatives directing the far flung manhunt from Tacoma announced they had been informed Davis was picked up in Chicago, confirming reports a man answering his description had been hustled into an airplane there by department of justice men.

Davis became suspected in the sensational abduction when various persons reported seeing him in this vicinity about the time the 9-year-old timber heir was seized May 24.

Beyond reporting they had been informed of Davis's arrest, federal operatives here said only they had learned he was "not being brought West."

This assertion was taken by some to mean that he may have been detained for reasons other than the Weyerhaeuser kidnaping.

MANITOWISH, Wis., June 3.—A plane forced down here by a thunder shower last night took off after the weather cleared. Reports of the plane's landing reached Chicago but no further information was available. Earlier a plane was chartered by de-

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7-576-A

# Davis, Karpis Gangster, Confesses Bremer Guilt

## Outlaw Taken to St. Paul in Private Plane

Arrested in Chicago for  
Kidnaping Banker; Trip  
North Delayed at Madison by Storm

St. Paul, Minn.—(P)—Gripped hard by the law he had dodged so long, Volney Davis, one of the Barker-Karpis kidnap mob, pleaded guilty Monday to conspiracy charges in connection with the \$200,000 Bremer abduction case.

The gangster entered his plea before Federal Judge M. M. Joyce in the same courtroom in which his erstwhile pal, Arthur (Doc) Barker, and six others recently were convicted of kidnaping Edward G. Bremer, wealthy St. Paul banker, last year.

The court deferred sentence. Davis faces possible life imprisonment; the same sentence passed upon Barker and Oliver Berg.

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL  
JUNE 3, 1935

7-576-A

SS

#### At School With Barker

Thirteen aliases served Davis at one time or another during his brushes with the law. He was born at Tahlequah, Okla., in 1902. He is slight of build, standing 5 feet 8 1/2 inches tall and weighing only 123 pounds. From his bushy hair he gained the nicknames "Curley" and "Cotton."

A schoolmate of "Doc" Barker and his slain brother, Fred Barker, Davis soon ran up a prison record for larceny and murder. After seven years in the Oklahoma state penitentiary, he was paroled in 1932 and he soon joined the Barker-Karpis gang.

After the Bremer kidnaping the gang split up, but singly, in couples and in trios most of its members were tracked down and killed or seized. In a bloody battle in Florida, Fred and "Ma" Barker were slain, "Ma" falling at a machine gun, beside her son.

#### Escaped From Agents

Alvin Karpis and Harry Campbell, suspected of the recent kidnaping of the Weyerhaeuser boy, and Davis eluded capture, but Davis only for a time.

Federal agents caught him in Kansas City last February, and then once more Davis proved his reckless resourcefulness. Handcuffed to two department of justice men, he was loaded aboard a plane and started for Chicago.

Engine trouble forced the pilot to bring his plane to an emergency landing in an unfrequented field near Yorkville, southwest of Chicago. The federal men took Davis to the town to notify the department that they would be delayed.

They stopped at a saloon, and removed Davis' handcuffs at the bar. While one of his guards was at

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 4, COLUMN 1]

#### Plane Halted in Madison

Davis was arrested Saturday in Austin, Ill., a suburb of Chicago, but this was not revealed until Sunday night when federal agents put him aboard a private airplane for the trip to St. Paul. A heavy rainstorm forced the plane to land at Madison, Wis., and remain until 3:15 Monday morning, when the flight was resumed. He was under heavy guard during the journey. Madison reports saying there were seven men in the plane, four of them armed.

Upon arrival at Minneapolis the manacled prisoner was chained to the floor of an automobile and whisked to the federal building in St. Paul.

Reports were current that Davis was suspected of a connection with the kidnaping in Tacoma, Wash., of George Weyerhaeuser, 9-year-old lumber heir who was freed Saturday after payment of \$300,000 ransom. This was based on a story that Davis was seen in Tacoma on May 24, the day of the kidnaping.

#### "A Slight Unpleasantness"

Reports from Chicago said Davis had been captured in a carefully laid ambush. As he drove up in a coupe, the gangster was pounced upon by seven officers who stepped from various places of concealment. He broke and ran, but halted when an officer fired one shot, spectators said. He was then driven away by his captors in his own automobile.

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the federal bureau of investigation at Washington, announced the arrest with the significant remark:

"We had a slight unpleasantness while taking Volney into custody."

Minnneapolis Tribune

June 3, 1935

## Karpis, 'Hot' for 14 Months, Still Hunted

Chicago, June 3.—(AP)—"That fellow Karpis," as 8-year old George Weyerhaeuser Saturday described one of his kidnapers, has been the country's "hottest" criminal for 14 months—ever since it was announced in March, 1934, that he was wanted as one of the men who staged another \$200,000 abduction, that of Edward G. Bremer.

Unofficially dubbed "public enemy No. 1" at the death of the late George (Baby Face) Nelson, Alvin Karpis has evaded capture or death for a longer period than any other holder of that title, usually a ticket to oblivion.

Under nine names, Karpis is wanted for crimes ranging from burglary to murder. Only 26 years old, the dark haired Chicagoan is the last of a notorious coterie of middle western bandits which included Harvey Bailey, Frank Nash, Verne Miller and Karpis' old companion-at-arms, Fred Barker.

Started in Chicago. The "wanted" circulars plastered all over the country describe him as slender, weighing about 130 pounds, with brown hair, blue eyes, and a surly stare.

He rose from a career as a minor west side Chicago hoodlum to a share in the management of what

was called the country's most dangerous band—the Barker-Karpis gang of bank robbers later turned kidnapers.

One of Karpis' partners, Arthur (Doc) Barker, only a few days ago was convicted of a share in the Bremer kidnaping. Fred, who police say was Karpis' sponsor in big-time crime, was killed in Florida along with Kate (Ma) Barker, the mother of the clan and brains of the mob.

Karpis—or Carter, or Raymond Hadley, George Haller, Alvin Karpis, Earl Peel, George Dunn, Ray Hunter or R. E. Hamilton, for he has used all those aliases—is an ex-convict freed from the state penitentiary, Lansing, Kan., by a bench parole.

Shot Way Out of Trap.

Hunted all over the country by federal agents, Karpis last showed up on January 20. Then, with Harry Campbell—presumably the "Harry" mentioned Saturday by George Weyerhaeuser—Karpis shot his way out of a police trap in Atlantic City, N. J.

Police had trailed them there from Florida, but when the raiders knocked at the hotel room door, Karpis and Campbell answered with a burst of machine gun fire. Escaping, the pair left behind them two girl friends.

One, Karpis' sweetheart, bore him a son a few days later while she was a prisoner.

Canadian born, Karpis is the son of Lithuanian immigrants, whose real name is Karpawic. He broke into crime early, and at 17 was sentenced to the state industrial re-

formatory, Hutchinson, Kan., for second-degree burglary. He escaped. His record then ran:

1930—Arrested in Kansas City, Mo., as a safe blower, but released to the reformatory as an escapist.

1931—As George Haller, he was arrested in Tulsa, turned over to the Okmulgee, Okla., police for burglary, and sentenced to four years in the state penitentiary at McAlester, Okla. His parole ended this, and he joined Fred Barker in bank raids throughout Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska.

Police say Karpis is known to his companions as "Bo" or as "Old Creepy."

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED  
JUN 3 1935  
FBI - CHICAGO

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington

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## "I Can't Win" Davis Admits

Gangman, In Own Story,  
Explains Plea.

BY VOLNEY DAVIS,  
(As Told To A Daily News Reporter.)

I pleaded guilty to the conspiracy charge because I knew I couldn't beat 'em (the federal government).

No, I didn't plead guilty merely to get it off my chest. I have been thinking of it for some time, but after reading accounts of the trial in St. Paul last month at which time several of the so-called gang members were found guilty, I decided that the federal government knew as much about the case as I did and there was no chance of beating it.

I would like to accommodate you fellows for pictures and as you say, it may not "hurt me," but there is someone else the pictures may hurt, and their hurt WOULD hurt me, and I have hurt them enough of late. It would be unfair to them to hurt them anymore.

You say that Edna (Edna Murray, Kansas City's "kissing bandits") was loyal to me to the end when she talked to you. Oh, well—

Six months ago I decided I couldn't stand the pressure. I really decided to give myself up at that time, but changed my mind. Then came the trial and the newspaper accounts. I read every line of every newspaper I could get my hands on.

St. Paul Daily News

June 3, 1935

# Karpis Gangster Brought Here In Airplane By Feds; Establishes Coast Alibi

## Pleads Guilty



VOLNEY DAVIS.

## Will Be Sentenced With Five Others Of Barker Mob On Friday.

Within a few hours after he had been brought to St. Paul from Chicago by a squad of heavily-armed department of justice agents, Volney Davis, Barker-Karpis gangster, today pleaded guilty to conspiracy in the Edward G. Bremer kidnaping.

Before he was brought into court Davis was closeted with "G-men" for more than three hours, as they questioned him concerning the kidnaping of 9-year-old George Weyerhaeuser at Tacoma, Wash.

### Cleared In Coast Case.

Davis is said to have established an airtight alibi in the case. Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell and William Weaver, remaining members of the Karpis-Barker gang, are suspected as having engineered the snatching of the heir to the lumber fortune.

Judge Joyce deferred sentence of Davis, one of the leaders in the \$200,000 Bremer kidnaping, until "later this week." It was indicated he would sentence five other members of the gang, who have either pleaded guilty or have been found guilty by a jury.

#### Five Await Sentence.

Awaiting sentence are Byron Bolton, who turned state's evidence after pleading guilty, and Elmer Farmer, who also pleaded guilty, and John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, Harold Alderton and James Wilson, who were found guilty.

All face life terms for their part in the case.

Davis was brought to St. Paul from Chicago, near where he was captured Saturday, in a chartered airplane by six agents. The airplane landed at Wold-Chamberlain field at 5 a. m., and Davis immediately was taken to the Ramsey county jail and later to the office of H. E. Anderson, agent in charge of the St. Paul office, where he was questioned.

#### Avoids Photographers.

As he was brought into court the hoodlum sought to avoid photographers and held his hat over his face as the cameramen sought to snap his picture.

United States District Attorney George F. Sullivan, who successfully prosecuted cases against other gang members, told Judge Joyce that Davis was being arraigned on the conspiracy indictment.

Judge Joyce ordered that the indictment be read and then asked Davis if he understood the meaning of the true bill. Davis replied that he did.

Asked whether he pleaded guilty or not guilty, Davis answered, in a low voice, "I plead guilty."

#### Nervousness Gone.

All the nervousness that Davis displayed in the courtroom was gone when he appeared later in the United States marshal's office for an interview. Wearing a gray suit, a blue shirt open at the collar, tan suede shoes and carrying a gray hat, the blond, curly-haired gangster talked freely with reporters.

Occasionally Davis, who delivered several of the ransom notes including one to Father John Deere of Prior Lake, smiled as he told of his part in the case. Davis also is said

(Continued On Page 2, Col. 2.)

to have thrown a ransom note through the front door window of Dr. H. T. Nippert's home at 706 Lincoln ave.

After the interview Davis was returned to the Ramsey county jail where he will be held for sentence. Federal agents also plan to question him concerning possible hideouts of Karpis, Campbell and William Weaver.

Later in the morning while Davis was in the marshal's office Mr. Bremer and his secretary, Lillian Dickman, appeared and the three were in a huddle for several minutes.

#### Eight Of Gang At Large.

Prior to Davis' capture at Austin, Ill., Saturday, his name had been mentioned frequently with other Karpis-Barker gang members as a participant in the Weyerhaeuser case. He was supposedly identified as the man who attempted to rent an apartment near the Weyerhaeuser home.

Reports had persisted that he rushed to Chicago after the \$200,000 ransom demanded for the release of the boy had been paid to have it exchanged for cool money.

The guilty plea of Davis leaves only eight members of the gang who took part in the Bremer kidnaping at large.

Twenty-six originally were accused by the government of the actual kidnaping of Mr. Bremer Jan. 17, 1934, of having some part in the ransom negotiations, hiding of the victim, exchange of the \$200,000 ransom or shielding the kidnapers.

#### Two Given Life.

Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver (Izzy) Berg were found guilty by a federal district court jury recently. Barker was sentenced to serve a life term in Leavenworth penitentiary and Berg was returned to finish a life term at the Illinois penitentiary at Joliet.

James Wilson, John J. McLaughlin and Harold Alderton also were found guilty and await sentence. Byron Bolton, Elmer Farmer and Davis have pleaded guilty and await sentence. Cases against Edna Murray, Bruno Austin and Jesse Doyle were dismissed after the government was unable to link them in the case.

Harry Sawyer, alleged hanger-on in the case and former St. Paul underworld boss, is held in the Ramsey county jail awaiting arraignment. "Ma" Barker, mother of the Barker brothers; Fred Barker, co-leader of the gang; George Goetz and Russell (Slim) Gibson have been killed, Goetz by members of the gang and the others by G-men.

#### Eight Still At Large.

Still at large in the case are Karpis, Campbell, Weaver, Willie Harrison, Myrtle Eaton, believed to be the woman in the Weyerhaeuser case; Dr. Joseph Moran, also be-

lieved to be dead, and John Doe and Richard Roe.

Davis first gained notoriety in 1923 when he was sentenced to the Oklahoma state prison for murder. It was believed it was there that he met the Karpis-Barker gang co-leaders. In 1925 he escaped from the prison but was recaptured. On Nov. 3, 1932, he was granted a "leave of absence" until July 1, 1933, and that time was extended a year. Since then he has been listed as a fugitive.

#### Lived In St. Paul.

Davis and Edna Murray, the "kissing bandit" who was dismissed by the federal government of any connection with the Bremer kidnaping, lived on Edgumbe road until the day Mr. Bremer was kidnaped, Jan. 17, 1934.

In an exclusive interview with a Daily News reporter, Edna Murray said she and Davis fled St. Paul the day after the Bremer kidnaping, but this was contradicted by Wynona Burdette, Harry Campbell's moll, who testified during the Bremer trial that while fleeing from St. Paul with Paula Harmon, Fred Barker's sweetheart, she met Edna Murray in Wisconsin. Both parties being headed for Chicago at the time.

He was taken to Ramsey county jail pending sentence at 4 P. M. Friday. The maximum penalty is life. "It's no use trying to beat these G-guys (Department of Justice agents)," Davis said. "They had it on me and I wanted to get it off my chest. The minute they read that indictment I could see they knew as much about this kidnaping as I did."

"I could see they had the straight stuff—almost exactly as it was pulled. I'm glad it's over with. I'll take the book (life imprisonment) and be done with this thing."

Davis said he read every newspaper story he could find of the recent trial of his pal of school days, Arthur (Doc) Barker, and other defendants in the Bremer case in St. Paul.

"Six months ago I decided I couldn't stand the pressure," he said. "I decided to give myself up at that time, but changed my mind."

He changed his mind to such an extent that when captured in February he beat a Federal agent on the head with a beer stein at Yorkville, Ill., and dived through a window to escape.

He refused to have his picture taken today, saying that although a photograph would not hurt him "it would hurt some one else."

## Feds Just Started On Kidnapers Hunt, Cummings Asserts

Middlesboro, Ky., June 3.—(AP)—Attorney General Homer S. Cummings asserted here today that the Department of Justice has "just begun" on the Weyerhaeuser kidnaping case, "and will not stop until we have brought to justice the perpetrators of this ghastly crime."

The attorney general spoke at a

chamber of commerce breakfast honoring himself and Mrs. Cummings, who received a Kentucky commission as "admiral of Rockcastle river," signed by Governor Ruby Laffoon.

There are "only one or two remnant bands" of kidnapers still at large, the attorney general said, "and practically all the major kidnap cases have been solved."

7-576-A



St. Paul Dispatch

June 3-1935

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Baughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

# DAVIS IS CAMERA-SHY



Handcuffed to a deputy United States marshal and with his face jammed into his hat, Volney Davis, 33-year-old Missouri desperado, appears above as he was led from an automobile to Ramsey county jail at noon today. Davis pleaded guilty earlier in the day to charges of conspiracy to kidnap Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker. He is scheduled to appear for sentence in Federal court either Friday or Saturday. Facing Davis and the deputy marshal in the picture are two Department of Justice agents.

## 9 IN JAIL, 4 KILLED, 8 AT LARGE IN BREMER CASE

The score in the government's relentless hunt for the 26 persons allegedly connected with the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer stood today at nine in jail, four dead, five acquitted and eight still at large.

Those at large are Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell, William Weaver, William Harrison, Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Mrs. Myrtle Eaton and two persons indicted as "John Doe" and "Richard Roe."

Of those arrested, Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg have been sent to prison for life; Volney Davis pleaded guilty today; John Z. (Boss) McLaughlin, Elmer Farmer, Byron Bolton, Harold Alderton and James J. Wilson are awaiting sentence, and Harry Sawyer is awaiting trial.

Of the dead, the two most notorious were Freddie and "Ma" Barker, shot to death in Florida while resisting Federal agents with machine guns.

### "GLAD TO GET IT OFF CHEST," DAVIS SAYS.

Volney Davis, pleaded guilty to conspiracy in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, asserted this afternoon he was "glad to get it off his chest."

Davis, nabbed Saturday in Chicago, was brought here by airplane at 5:15 A. M. today and five hours later entered a surprising plea of guilty when arraigned before Judge M. M. Joyce in United States District court. It had been expected he would stand trial.

7-576-17

St Paul Dispatch

June 3, 1935

Grayd Hair, Thin Face Indicate Effects on Gangster of Hide-and-Seek Game With G Men.

# SENTENCE DEFERRED ON PROSECUTION PLEA

Volney Davis captured Saturday in Chicago, pleaded guilty today in St. Paul to conspiracy in the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer. The maximum penalty is life in prison.

United States District Judge M. M. Joyce, before whom the desperado was arraigned, deferred sentence to Friday or Saturday at the request of George F. Sullivan, United States district attorney.

So sudden and dramatic was the gangster's capitulation to the law, which he had dodged so long, that the court room was empty of spectators except for a small group of federal employees.

Manacled to a deputy marshal and guarded by eight other government agents, Davis was marched into the court room, where the seventeen-page conspiracy indictment was read.

Prisoner Seems Nervous.

The 33-year-old prisoner appeared nervous and often rubbed his face with his green handkerchief, in which he held a gray hat, as the clerk droned the long charge.

"You are here for the purpose of pleading guilty or not guilty to the charge," Judge Joyce told Davis. "What is your plea?"

"Guilty," whispered Davis in a voice so low that court attendants had to strain to hear.

"Do you understand the charge and the penalty?" Judge Joyce asked.

"I understand the maximum penalty is life," Davis replied.

"That is right," the court said.

Taken to County Jail. Dressed in gray suit, a blue shirt without a tie and gray and brown suede shoes, he was taken to the county jail to await sentence.

The surprise plea of guilty was made before the judge who only several weeks ago sentenced Davis' pal of school days, Arthur (Doc) Barker, to life imprisonment in the Bremer case.

Other members of the Barker-Karpis mob, accused of the Bremer crime, also appeared at that time as defendants before Judge Joyce and three still are in Ramsey county jail, pending sentence.

Of the 26 men and women charged with complicity in the kidnaping four were killed before they could be captured, eight including Davis have pleaded guilty or been convicted five have been acquitted and the remainder are at large.

Seized in Fugitive.

Davis, reputedly the toughest member of the Barker-Karpis gang, was captured Friday by government men in a suburb of Chicago after an exchange of shots.

The prisoner was bundled aboard a chartered airplane Sunday night at the Chicago Municipal airport in custody of seven men. Ordinarily the plane would have arrived here at 10 P. M., but it did not arrive until 3:15 A. M. A 30-minute stop was made at Madison, Wis. Six Department of Justice operatives met the ship.

Davis, chained and manacled, was carried by the officers from the airplane to a waiting automobile. He was chained to the floor of the car and rushed to the Federal Courts building in St. Paul, where he was secreted and questioned up to the hour of arraignment.

Finger Tips Starred. A fugitive for months, he bore the marks of a hunted man. His hair was gray, he was thinner and he appeared worn. Acid had blurred his finger tips.

Harold E. Anderson, Department of Justice chief in St. Paul, refused to discuss the case in any way, declining to say whether any one had been captured with Davis, whether the prisoner had admitted anything and whether he was being questioned concerning the kidnaping of 9-year-old George Wayneshauser at Tacoma.

An Associated Press reporter from Washington said J. Edgar Hoover, director of the U. S. Bureau of Investigation, confirmed the identification of Davis.

"We had a slight unpleasantness while taking Volney into custody," he said, referring to the shooting.

7-576-A



Minneapolis Tribune  
June 3-1935

*Eap*

# VOLNEY DAVIS, AID OF KARPIS, CAUGHT IN TRAP

Brought to St. Paul by Federal  
Agents in Mystery Plane  
Flight.

Identity Kept Secret Until  
Arraignment—Sentence  
Deferred.

Brought to the Twin Cities by a mystery airplane from Chicago, Volney Davis, accused by the government of being one of the principals in the \$200,000 ransom kidnapping of Edward G. Bremer, pleaded guilty to conspiracy before District Judge H. M. Joyce at St. Paul Monday. At the request of George F. Sullivan, United States district attorney, sentence was deferred by the court until Friday or Saturday.

The arraignment took place in the same courtroom where Arthur Barker and others were tried on conspiracy charges. Davis listened to a lengthy reading of the indictment naming himself and 12 others. At the end, he announced, "I plead guilty." He was not represented by counsel.

Although neatly dressed in a gray suit, blue shirt, blue tie and gray socks, Davis was somewhat nervous and his hair was pulled after the mystery trip. He was handcuffed to a United States marshal and other marshals flanked him as he appeared in court.

Before he was arraigned, Davis appeared to be in some agony. He refused to go to a justice outside the Federal building. When a newspaper reporter reported that the justice "couldn't get him," he suddenly changed. "I might not have been so easily won," he said. "I am not so easily won."

Much secrecy attended the advent of Davis in the Twin Cities Monday. Not until shortly before the arraignment would government men admit that the man brought under heavy guard from Chicago was the much sought Davis.

The prisoner was loaded aboard a plane in Chicago Sunday night and a takeoff made for an unannounced destination. During the night the plane was grounded for a time at Madison, Wis., by rain. At 2:15 a. m. the large ship owned by a Chicago airway landed at the Minneapolis airport.

Kept in Chains  
Six "G-Men" who had been hanging about the airport during the early morning hours in surveillance of the plane—two on each side, one in the front and one in the rear. A figure in chains was carried from the ship to a waiting automobile by the seven government officers who had come with him by air.

In the car the man was chained to the floor and to the back of both seats. Three agents climbed in with him and three more followed in another car. He was taken to Federal building in St. Paul.

## Pleads Guilty in Bremer Case



Volney Davis

7-586-A

NEW YORK POST, MONDAY, JUNE 3, 1935

## Karpis Pal Pleads Guilty In Kidnaping of Bremer

## ***Volney Davis, Captured in Chicago, Taken in Plane to St. Paul Court***

ST. PAUL, June 3 (AP).—Volney of the Weyerhaeuser kidnaping at Davis, thirty-three, considered by Tacoma, Wash. police one of the most dangerous.

Heavily shackled and manacled Davis landed at the Minneapolis airport at 5:15 A. M. today, accompanied by seven Federal agents. Six others from the local office met him.

On motion of George F. Sullivan, United States District Attorney, sentence was deferred.

Davis formally admitted his guilt a few hours after he had been brought to the Twin Cities by plane, under a heavy guard of special agents of the United States Department of Justice.

His capture, he was seized Saturday in Chicago—had been announced only a few minutes before Davis came into court.

## Karpis Still Free

Davis was arraigned before Federal Judge M. M. Joyce, in the same Federal courtroom where one of Davis's chiefs, Arthur (Doc) Barker, was convicted a few weeks ago of engineering the Bremer kidnapping. Barker received a life sentence.

Bremer charge was taken as indicating they did not believe he had any part in the kidnapping of the Weyerhaeuser boy, who was released upon payment of \$200,000 after Davis's capture.

Federal agents in Chicago chart-

When the judge read the Bremer case indictment, which charged Davis with writing the ransom notes while the banker was a prisoner, Davis said quietly, "Guilty."

## Escaped in February

Davis' capture by Federal agents in Chicago, where he walked into a carefully laid trap and found himself surrounded by seven special agents, leaves only one important member of the Barker-Karpis gang at large—Alvin Bo Karpis, co-proprietor of the band and unofficial public enemy No. 1, now suspected

"We had a slight unpleasantness while taking Volney into custody." He declined, however, to reveal more details.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Neill	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schildt	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....

Σ S

7-576-A

N. Y. EVENING POST

June 3, 1935.

## Kidnaper Fell Into Trap Set By Girl Friend

Tip to 'G' Men Resulted  
in Capture of Davis as  
Bremer Case Plotter

St. Paul, June 4 (P)—A woman with whom he had been keeping company betrayed Volney Davis, Barker-Karpis gangster who pleaded guilty to conspiracy in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, it was learned from an authoritative source today.

Davis, who was freed of conspiracy charges in the kidnaping of the St. Paul banker and returned to a Missouri prison, had made arrangements with the girl, Edna Murray, to meet him at Austin, Ill., Chicago suburb, and authorities were informed of the proposed meeting.

### Increase Tacoma Force

(Copyright, 1935, by the Associated Press)

Tacoma, June 4 (P)—Increasing their Tacoma field force to about 30 by the arrival of a dozen new men, Federal Department of Justice agents were unusually active today, hoping to clear up the George Weyerhaeuser kidnaping within the week.

Otherwise they face the possibility of a long wait until the abductors, who extorted \$300,000 from Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Weyerhaeuser Jr. for the return of their 9-year-old son, come out of hiding and attempt to flee.

Persons who receive one of the ransom bank notes will be compensated, Federal agents said.

"Nobody will lose money," a spokesman said. "The department will take the bill and see that another is given to replace it. We also want to emphasize the importance of remembering from whom the ransom bill was received."

Mr. Nathan.....  
Mr. Tolson.....  
Mr. Baughman.....  
Chief Clerk.....  
Mr. Clegg.....  
Mr. Coffey.....  
Mr. Edwards.....  
Mr. Egan.....  
Mr. Harbo.....  
Mr. Keith.....  
Mr. Lester.....  
Mr. Quinn.....  
Mr. Scheidt.....  
Mr. Schilder.....  
Mr. Smith.....  
Mr. Tamm.....  
Mr. Tracy.....  
Miss Gandy.....

7-576-R

## ADMITS HELPING KIDNAP BREMER

Volney Davis Pleads Guilty in  
St. Paul After Being Cap-  
tured in Chicago.

By the United Press.

ST. PAUL, June 8.—Volney Davis pleaded guilty today when arraigned in Federal court on a charge of participating in the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer.

Davis, arrested by Federal agents in Chicago under Melvin Purvis and brought here by airplane, was a member of the notorious Barker-Karpis gang and was wanted for questioning in connection with the abduction of George Weyerhaeuser in Tacoma, Wash.

He was arraigned on the Bremer charge within a few hours after arrival here. The expected life term sentence was deferred.

A few minutes after pleading guilty, Davis told the United Press that he admitted his part in the Bremer abduction "because the government knew as much about the kidnaping as I did, and I didn't have a chance to beat the rap."

### Five Others To Be Sentenced.

It is understood that five others will be sentenced with him. Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg previously were sentenced to life imprisonment.

Meanwhile Davis will be questioned in connection with the Weyerhaeuser kidnaping.

Federal agents believe that Davis was in contact with the other members of the gang in recent months.

During negotiations for ransom, the Weyerhaeuser boy, Davis' name frequently was connected to the abduction by federal operatives. He was identified as the man who attempted to rent an apartment near the Weyerhaeuser home; it was reported.

Agents are expected to question Davis concerning hideouts used by Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell and William Weaver, major remaining fugitives of the gang, since their trail was lost early this year while Karpis was en route West following his escape with Campbell from a police trap in Atlantic City.

### More Agents Fly West.

Four Department of Justice agents booked passage for Seattle at Chi-

(Continued on Page Two.)

made holiday today at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Philip Weyerhaeuser. School days are over for him for this year, although the term has several weeks to run. The family is trying to shield him from publicity.

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Smith	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

*EJH*

7-576-P7

PAGE THREE

## Girl Waitress Gets Threat She Thinks From Kidnapers

Arrest of Harry Campbell, member of the Karpis gang, would be of immense relief to a certain waitress in the hotel Winthrop coffee shop.

She was frightened so badly last Monday evening by what she interpreted as a threat that she hurried home in tears without remaining to serve the customer at her table.

About a week before the kidnaping of George Weyerhaeuser, a man whom the waitress believes was Campbell appeared in the coffee shop with an auburn haired woman. For nearly a week she served them. On the second day she noticed the woman's hair had been bleached since the previous morning.

The couple attracted considerable attention during the few days they were at the hotel. The man always wore a gardenia, according to the waitress.

On Monday evening following the kidnaping a small man of light complexion engaged the waitress in conversation about the case. She remarked that several newspaper men were in the coffee shop, and he asserted that if he wanted to he could give them a story that would "knock them off their feet."

The waitress says he then called

her attention to a black artificial daisy in his buttonhole.

"Do you know what that means?" he asked.

She replied that she did not.

"Well, it means death," he said.

The girl became frightened. She interpreted it as a warning not to tell what she knew of the couple she had served prior to the kidnaping.

She became so worried that she hurried home at once. Later, police learned of the incident.

THE TACOMA TIME  
June 3, 1935

7-576A



# Volney Davis Pleads Guilty in Kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer

Karpis Aide Delivered to St. Paul; May Be Link in Solving of Weyerhaeuser Crime

By United Press  
While Government agents followed the elusive trail of the kidnapers of 9-year-old George Weyerhaeuser in the Northwest, Federal man hunters today delivered Volney Davis, member of the outlaw Alvin Karpis gang, to St. Paul, where he pleaded guilty to charges of aiding in the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward Bremer.

Davis was questioned in an effort to solve the Weyerhaeuser abduction, in which he has been linked thru his association with Karpis.

Altho peace officers in the Northwest had run down dozens of clues in their quest for the Weyerhaeuser kidnapers, they reported no definite trace of the gangsters.

By United Press  
ST. PAUL—Volney Davis pleaded guilty today when arraigned before Federal Court on charges of participation in the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer. Sentence was deferred.

Davis, arrested by Melvin Purvis in Chicago and brought here by plane, was a member of the notorious Barker-Karpis gang and was wanted for questioning in connection with the abduction of George Weyerhaeuser in Tacoma, Wash.

Davis was palled to await sentence.

It was understood that five others would be sentenced with him.

They are Byron Bolton and Elmer Farmer, both of whom pleaded guilty, and John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, Harold Alderton, and James J. Wilson, who were found guilty with Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg. Barker and Berg previously were sentenced to life imprisonment.

Meanwhile Davis will be questioned

(Continued on Page 30)

## Davis Pleads Guilty in Bremer Kidnaping

(Continued from Page 1)

in connection with the Weyerhaeuser kidnaping.

It was believed by Federal agents that Davis had been in contact with the other members of the gang in recent months.

By United Press  
TACOMA, Wash.—Justice Department agents, engaged in their greatest man hunt since the search for John Dillinger, looked to Volney Davis, midwestern gangster and slayer, today to lead them to the men who kidnaped 9-year-old George Weyerhaeuser for \$200,000 ransom.

It was believed that Davis was here as the "advance" man of the kidnap gang. It would have been his task to survey the ground, time the boy's movements, then fade out of the picture while the men who did the kidnaping moved in.

This theory would account for Davis' presence in Chicago at the time the boy was being released at Issaquah, between Tacoma and Seattle.

### CLAIM HIDEOUT KNOWN

Justice Department men think they know where the men who seized George Weyerhaeuser are hiding. They may not need Davis to lead them to them.

Every highway leading from the state was patrolled by deputy sheriffs and state police, rifles unslung, ready for use. Coast guardsmen roared back and forth along Puget Sound, scrutinizing every boat. British Columbia authorities added their aid with a blockade of their shoreline and ports against unidentified strangers.

### LIST OF KIDNAP BILLS DISTRIBUTED BY HOOVER

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, today made public a list of the Federal Reserve notes used in paying the \$200,000 ransom of George Weyerhaeuser.

The list, 55 closely printed pages, was distributed thruout the nation with the request that if any of the ransom money appears the Bureau of Investigation be notified.

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Baughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Schuch  
Mr. Sells  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

WASH. NEWS

7-576-A

JUN 3 1935



# Kidnapers Ask Ransom of \$200,000 for Son of Coast Lumber King

Broken Barker-Karpis Mob Linked to Case by St. Paul Police

## BULLETIN

TACOMA, Wash. — The ransom note mailed by kidnapers to parents of George Philip Weyerhaeuser advised them to watch classified advertisements in Seattle Sunday newspapers for advice, a close friend of the family revealed this afternoon.

By United Press

TACOMA, Wash. — A sheet of heavy linen note paper "like a woman might use," today furnished the most promising lead to the kidnapers of George Philip Weyerhaeuser, 9, son of a millionaire lumber company executive.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Philip Weyerhaeuser Jr., were believed attempting to communicate with abductors who are holding the boy for \$200,000 ransom.

A possible signal to kidnapers was seen in a sheet, draped over a banister of the rear porch of the exclusive North Tacoma home. It was visible for a long distance from the house, on a hill overlooking Puget Sound.

## WILLING TO PAY

It was reported the Weyerhaeusers, sons of the late Frederick Weyerhaeuser's family, were willing to pay the ransom if the boy were returned safely.

The note was typewritten on the kind of paper usually used for personal longhand correspondence. Scrawled on the back was the boy's signature.

Belief that the crime was executed by "eastern gangsters" was expressed.

(Continued on Page 5)

by U. S. Marshal A. J. Chitty, who with 15 Justice Department men is at work on the case.

He pointed out that the family received nation-wide publicity last week with the death at Tacoma of John Philip Weyerhaeuser Sr., grandfather of the missing boy.

## POLICE VIEW DIFFERS

City police were inclined to believe that the kidnaping was the work of northwestern criminals. They said the publicity was even greater near Tacoma where the grandfather was better known, and added that if "eastern gangsters" were attracted by the publicity and came here to kidnap the boy, they worked with amazing speed.

C. C. Spears, Federal agent from Portland who flew here to take charge of the case, enlisted Luke S. May, Seattle criminologist, who has solved many sensational crimes from clues so slight that they seemed hopeless.

Spears was the man who turned up some \$40,000 of Urchel ransom money in Oregon and Washington a few months ago.

## CONTENTS NOT REVEALED

Contents of the note, aside from the ransom demand, were guarded by the secretive Justice Department men. It was reported, but not confirmed, that it threatened death to the kid if authorities were notified, and said the crime had been planned to the smallest detail.

Chitty pointed out that George was the only one of the Weyerhaeuser children who could have been conveniently "snatched." Anne, his sister, usually rode back and forth between her home and the Annie Wright Seminary with the family chauffeur. Philip, 10, went home with a group of boys, while George walked a block and a half between the spot where he left his classmate, Bruce Bowman, and the seminary, alone. That was his customary procedure.

It was apparently on that block and a half that the kidnapers lay in wait and seized the boy Friday at noon. He did not appear at home or at school, and last night a special delivery messenger delivered a letter to the family. It was the ransom note.

## Kidnaping Is Linked With Barker-Karpis Gang

Copyright, 1935, by United Press

ST. PAUL—Agents of the St. Paul Justice Department believe there is "strong evidence" to connect fugitives of the shattered Barker-Karpis gang with the George Weyerhaeuser kidnaping, it was learned today.

In recent weeks agents have intensified their search for the last fugitives of the Barker-Karpis gang in the Pacific Northwest, particularly in Washington.

The fact that the kidnapers demanded \$200,000 ransom, the same as in the Bremer kidnaping, is a "clue at the law," an official said.

Led by the desperate Alvin Karpis, the remaining gangsters have assembled on the West Coast for a final, daring move, the official said.

By United Press

ST. PAUL—The vast fortunes of the Weyerhaeuser family which Tacoma kidnapers are attempting to tap were founded 75 years ago by Frederick Weyerhaeuser, an immigrant youth who became "the richest man in the world" in 40 years of lumbering.

Beginning with purchase of a small tract of timber in Wisconsin, Weyerhaeuser started an industry that for three generations has been famed as "the lord of the lumber mills."

When he arrived in the United States in 1852 with his mother and sister, the family settled in Erie County, Pa. Weyerhaeuser worked

there as a day laborer. Three years later the family moved to Illinois where Weyerhaeuser went into partnership with a saw mill operator.

## INVESTIGATE TIMBER

On a chance journey to Wisconsin, he investigated the timber field and found extreme waste. He forthwith determined to enter the lumber industry on a large scale and in 1864 made his first purchase.

Within a decade Weyerhaeuser organized the Chippewa Lumber and Boom Co. at Chippewa Falls, Wis., the largest firm of its kind in the world, and started the lumber buying syndicate of Tacoma which bore his name.

Profits began pouring in by the million as Weyerhaeuser gained control of virtually every piece of valuable lumber in the Mississippi River basin.

The greatest lot of timber acquired by Weyerhaeuser was thru the Northern Pacific land grants to that company. For its lines, the company was given hundreds of thousands of acres. Under the "New selection" act it traded much of the land for timber, which was turned over to Weyerhaeuser. In the deal Weyerhaeuser was reputed to have obtained a million acres of timber at a ruling price of \$5 an acre. Within a decade the land was valued at 20 times the purchase price.

At the peak of his career Weyerhaeuser controlled 20 of the largest sawmills in the world, turning out 7,000,000 feet of sawed lumber daily.

Weyerhaeuser came to St. Paul in 1891. He married Elizabeth Bladel, of Rock Island, Ill., in 1887.

He died in 1914. Two of his four sons, Frederick Jr., and John P. Weyerhaeuser, were directly engaged in the business which he left.

It was John P. Weyerhaeuser who died a few days ago in Tacoma. It is his grandson who is kidnaped.

Mr. Baughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey

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WASH. NEWS

MAY 25 1935

7-576-A

# Captive Barber's Tongue Wags 5 States Into Flurry

Prisoner on Plane Boasts He's  
Karpis, Stirs Mid-West

CHICAGO, May 23 (AP).—Jack Loague, who eased the tedium of a long plane flight with the ready admission he was Alvin Karpis, Public Enemy No. 1, sat in a jail cell here tonight. He was identified by his custodian, Detective Sergeant A. O. Clark, of the Memphis, Tenn., Police Department, as a burglary suspect, but only after Loague's boast had disturbed the calm of official quarters in five cities.

It all started this noon at the Omaha Airport. A stewardess on the plane reported that a prisoner aboard had told her that he was Karpis and that he had been captured on a ranch near Boise, Idaho. The mystery deepened when the plane paused at Des Moines. "Karpis" and his captor did not poke their heads from the cabin.

From the passenger list were gleaned the names given by the pair—Jack Loague and Officer A. O. Clark. J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, denied at Washington that Karpis had been captured and asserted the department had no A. O. Clark on its pay roll.

The Memphis Police Department took the first knot out of the tangle with the announcement that Detective Sergeant Clark was returning Loague from Vale, Ore., to Memphis for trial on burglary charges. Chief Will Lee accounted for Loague's loquacity by reporting that he was a barber—the prison barber, in fact, who had shaved Edward Hickman the night before that youth was hanged in California. But this information came too late to prevent a furor here.

The Municipal Airport swarmed with Federal agents, detectives, reporters, camera men and the curious. They appraised Loague as he stepped from the plane. He was blond and big. Karpis is dark and slender.

Then Detective Clark made his explanations and saw his prisoner off to jail to wait the next plane for the South.

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Scheidt	✓
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Smith	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

7-576-A

St. Paul Dispatch  
May 23, 1935

Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Smith	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

# Shackled Man Seen at Omaha Aboard Plane

Stewardess on Airship Says Prisoner Talked Freely  
and Admitted Identity as Co-Leader With Barker;  
Suspect, Dressed in Pajamas on Nebraska Stop,  
6 Believed to Have Come From Idaho.

**AERIAL LINER NOT TO TOUCH GROUND  
TILL IT REACHES CHICAGO, OFFICIALS SAY**

## HOOVER DENIES WORD ON KARPIS.

J. Edgar Hoover, United States Department of Justice head, told the Dispatch at 2:10 P. M. over long distance telephone from Washington that he has had no report of the capture of Alvin Karpis.

A man reported to be Alvin Karpis, Public Enemy No. 1 of the United States and leader of the mob of kidnapers who abducted Edward G. Bremer in 1934, is, in the hands of United States Department of Justice agents.

The Associated Press reported from Omaha that the man, heavily manacled and dressed in pajamas was taken eastward through there today aboard a United Airlines plane. A stewardess said the man talked freely and said he is Karpis, the Associated Press reported. The plane will not stop until it reaches Chicago and United Airlines officials said they did not know who the man is.

Identified as Kidnapers.  
Karpis was positively identified here in the recent trial of Arthur (Doc) Barker and nine associates for the Bremer kidnaping, as participant in the kidnaping, inmate of the hide-out, and planner of the crime.



Department of Justice agents here and in Chicago said they have no knowledge of the capture. During the trial, however, ALVIN KARPIS, number of the agents in St. Paul said they believed Karpis' capture near.

Airline attendants in Omaha said the man declared he was captured early today. The plane halted at Boise, Idaho, at 2:10 A. M. Mountain time. On the passenger list the manacled man was listed as "Jack Logue" in custody of Officer A. O. Clark.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation office here had no information of any capture, and Werner Hanni, division chief, said he doubted if the men were Federal officers.

Hanni said he knew of no one named Logue and of no bureau agent named Clark.

## REPORTED CAPTURE IS "NEWS" TO PURVIS.

Chicago, May 23.—(P)—"It's news to me," was the only comment forthcoming today from Melvin Purvis, chief of Federal agents here, on reports that Alvin Karpis, public enemy, had been captured.

"I think I would have heard of it," said Purvis, back in charge of the Chicago office after a long illness.

## STILL ON PLANE AT DES MOINES.

Des Moines, May 23.—(P)—A man whom passengers said was Alvin Karpis, southwestern desperado sought in the Edward G. Bremer kidnaping, was on a United Airlines plane when it arrived here at 2:03 P. M.

7-576-4

# Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Charleston, W. Va., Daily Mail May 18, 1935

## PRESS DRIVES ON KIDNAPERS

Convictions of Five in  
Bremer Case Termed  
Propitious Omen

ST. PAUL, May 18 (AP).—Crushing a part of the Barker-Karpis mob through conviction of one of the leaders and four alleged associates, the federal government today made plans to embark upon a roundup of fugitive kidnapers and bank robbers.

Satisfied with the outcome of the trial here of the kidnapers of Edward G. Bremer, J. Edgar Hoover, national chief of the justice department's bureau of investigation, informed H. E. Andersen, district chief here, that the federal forces now will concentrate their efforts on both the extermination of fugitive kidnapers and bank robbers.

A federal court jury yesterday convicted Arthur (Doc) Barker, co-leader of the Barker-Alvin Karpis gang; Oliver Berg, Joliet, Ill., penitentiary lifer; John J. McLaughlin and James J. Wilson, Chicago, and Harold Alderton, Bensenville, Ill., of conspiracy in the kidnaping in January 1934, of Bremer, St. Paul banker. The jury acquitted Edward Vidler and Philip Delaney, Chicago.

Barker and Berg were sentenced to life imprisonment. Sentences of the other three convicted, along with the punishment for Byron Bolton, Chicago, and Elmer Farmer, Bensenville, who pleaded guilty, was deferred.

Heading the list of gangsters sought especially for complicity in the \$200,000 Bremer kidnaping is Alvin Karpis, the nation's No. 1 outlaw. Others sought are Harry Campbell, who with Karpis escaped a federal trap of gunfire in Atlantic City last January; Volney Davis, who escaped from federal agents at Yorkville, Ill.; William Weaver, former convict and alleged active participant in the banker's kidnaping; Willis Harrison, former tavern keeper of Hammond, Ind.; Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Chicagoan physician who allegedly performed operations to obliterate the finger prints of Karpis, Doc Barker, Freddie Barker (now deceased), Harrison, Davis and Campbell.

Harry Sawyer, St. Paul named as the "finger man" in the case, is in the county jail here awaiting trial. He is expected to be arraigned in about two weeks.

Mr. Nathan ✓  
Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. Baughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn ✓  
Mr. Schilder ✓  
Mr. Schlichter  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

7-576-A

- Mr. Nathan ✓
- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Keith .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schilder ✓
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Smith .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

48

# 'KARPIS' TURNS OUT TO BE JUST ANOTHER FELON

Handcuffed Prisoner on Plane Taken for Public Enemy; Greeted With Machine Guns

Jack Logue stepped from a United Air Lines plane last evening into a reception intended by government agents, police and several hundred curious citizens for the nation's No. 1 public enemy, Alvin Karpis.

But Sergt. A. O. Clark of Memphis police explained Logue is wanted in Mississippi for burglary. Some one on the plane had heard Sergt. Clark and Logue mention Karpis' name at the Omaha airport. That's how the story got started that Karpis was in custody.

7-576-A

CHICAGO HERALD & EXAMINER

MAY 24 1935





## GUARD KIDNAPER BERG ON WAY BACK TO JOLIET

St. Paul, May 23 (P).—Manacled to an Illinois penitentiary official and guarded by two U. S. deputy marshals, Oliver (Izzie) Berg, sentenced to a life term for participation in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, left here for Joliet, Ill., prison.



Berg is to resume the serving of a life-time sentence for commission of an Illinois crime. He was handcuffed to Capt. James A. Humphrey, chief jailer of Joliet penitentiary. The trip was made by train.

The two deputy marshals were ordered to accompany Berg to prevent a possible escape. The Illinois convict, charged with being a money passer in the kidnaping, was given a life-term sentence along with Arthur (Doc) Barker, and must serve the second term if he receives a pardon from his first conviction.

Wynona Burdette, 21-year-old gang girl, a witness in the abduc-

tion trial, also left here for the federal women's penitentiary at Milan, Mich., where she is to resume serving of a sentence for harboring Alvin Karpis and Harry Campbell fugitives from the law.

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Smith	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

7-576-A

CHICAGO DAILY TIMES

MAY 23 1935

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Smith	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

### Berg, Bremer 'Lifer,' Returned to Joliet

Oliver Berg, one of the defendants sentenced last week to life imprisonment in connection with the Bremer kidnaping, was returned today to the Stateville penitentiary, where he must serve the balance of a ten-year to life robbery term. He will be eligible to parole December, 1936, and if allowed his freedom on the robbery charge will be turned over to the government to serve his kidnaping term.

7-576-A

THE CHICAGO AMERICAN  
MAY 23 1935

**Karpis for a Day!  
Second Story Man  
Was 'Only Fooling'**

Chicago, Ill.—U.P.—Jack Loque had his day of fun but it's all over now.

Loque is traveling from Vale, Ore., to Memphis with Police Sergt. A. O. Clark, who says he is wanted on a burglary charge. The two took an airplane Thursday from Boise, Idaho, to Chicago.

Bored, Loque entertained himself by informing persons en route that he was Alvin Karpis, a person of considerably more notoriety than any Memphis second story man. He spoke so convincingly that a United Airlines pilot radioed his Chicago superiors that the nation's No. 1 public enemy was aboard.

Loque was almost as surprised as Sergt. Clark when department of justice agents, newspaper photographers and reporters and a mob of the curious swarmed about them in Chicago. Loque thought it was funny. Clark didn't.

"I didn't know he was putting out such a life," Clark said. "I'll see if he can't be kept a little less humorous today."

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schmitt	✓
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Smith	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

MILWAUKEE, JOURNAL  
MAY 24, 1935

7-576-A

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schmidt	✓
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Smith	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

# **Confessed 'Karpis'** **Merely a Burglar**

CHICAGO, May 22 (AP)—A garrulous prisoner who had kicked up a flurry while being rushed across the West in a plane by claiming he was Alvin Karpis, Public Enemy No. 1, was identified by authorities as Jack Loague, a burglary suspect, when he reached the Chicago airport late today.

Detective Sergt. A. O. Clark of the Memphis, Tenn., police department, identified Loague as his prisoner and dispelled rampant rumors that the notorious Karpis had been captured.

Clark said he had gone to Vale, Ore., to get the suspect and was returning him to Memphis for trial on burglary charges.

MILWAUKEE, SENTINAL  
MAY 24, 1935

7-576 A

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	✓
Chief Clerk	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Edwards	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Keith	✓
Mr. Lester	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Smith	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

*Handwritten initials and a checkmark.*

REPORT KARPIS  
CAPTURED

OMAHA, May 23 (P)—A man believed to be Alvin Karpis, public enemy No. 1, was taken through here at noon today on a United Airlines plane.

The prisoner had been captured on a ranch near Boise, Idaho.

WISCONSIN NEWS  
MAY 23, 1935

7-576-A

THE MOBILE TIMES  
Mobile, Alabama.  
May 24th., 1935

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Schmidt .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

## 'Alvin Karpis,' No. 1 Public Enemy, Turns Out to Be Burglary Suspect

Prisoner Who Had Reporters On Go Revealed As Be-  
ing Wanted at Holly Springs, Miss.

(By International News Service)

CHICAGO.—Jack Loague, the fellow who might have been Desperado Alvin Karpis—but wasn't—rattled his handcuffs today and waited to be taken to Holly Springs, Miss., to face a burglary charge.

Reports that Karpis, current public enemy No. 1, was aboard an incoming plane from Omaha sent five department of justice agents, three police squads and an army of reporters to Chicago airport last evening.

From the plane stepped Sgt. A. O. Clark of Memphis, Tenn., and his obscure prisoner, who, reports had said, was Karpis. Clark had boarded the plane at Boise, Ida., with his prisoner, who had been arrested at Vale, Ore.

The officer's presence at the

Omaha airport with a manacled prisoner started the report that Karpis had been captured and was being taken secretly to Chicago.

ES  
M. W. Meekins,  
Special Agent.

7-576-F



Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Baughman .....
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
Mr. Harbo .....
Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Scheidt .....
Mr. Schilder .....
Mr. Smith .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....
.....
.....

DOC BARKER CONFINED  
IN U. S. PENITENTIARY  
AT LEAVENWORTH

Leavenworth, Kas., May 25.—(P)—Arthur [Doc] Barker was received at the federal penitentiary here today to start serving a life sentence imposed in St. Paul after his conviction of participation in the \$200,000 Edward G. Bremer kidnaping. Barker will be held in quarantine for 30 days before being given work assignment.

Barker was brought from St. Paul by three deputy United States marshals. He was handcuffed and wore leg shackles.

Barker and the officers left the train about two miles from the prison, and he was walked, shackled, five blocks to a bus station for the ride to the prison.

Barker said he had worked as a printer in a previous prison term. "I liked the work," and hoped he would be given a similar assignment at Leavenworth.

ES

7-576-A

CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE  
MAY 26 1935

Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Baughman .....
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
Mr. Harbo .....
Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Scheidt .....
Mr. Schilder .....
Mr. Smith .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....
.....
.....

**Barker Received  
at Federal Prison**

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., May 25.  
—(I.N.S.)—Arthur ("Doc") Barker,  
given a life sentence at St. Paul for  
the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer,  
was received at the federal  
penitentiary here today.

ES

7-576-A

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Scheidt .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

## Bremer and Urschel Each Bought Liberty for Ransoms of \$200,000

By United Press

WASHINGTON—The \$200,000 demanded by the kidnapers of George Philip Weyerhaeuser, nine, of Tacoma, Wash., is the same price paid by two other victims for freedom—Edward J. Bremer, the St. Paul banker, and Charles Urschel, the Oklahoma City oil man.

William Hamm of St. Paul, paid \$100,000 and John (Jake the Barber) Factor paid \$70,000. Charles Lindbergh paid, thru Dr. John F. Condon, the sum of \$50,000 for the child who was even then in a hastily scraped grave in the Sourlands.

The kidnaping was disheartening to federal circles which have considered the crime stamped out. For

months the Department of Justice has congratulated itself upon the fact that there have been no major abductions. The kidnaping of Mrs. Berry V. Stoll, in Louisville, in October of last year was the last one solved by the Department. Her kidnaper, Thomas H. Robinson, who collected \$50,000, is still at large, but his wife and his father are awaiting trial.

The Weyerhaeuser kidnaping is now the only major crime in its classification still unsolved. Seventeen others since 1930, involving respectable citizens and underworld characters, have been solved and in nearly every case the criminals are either in prison or, in two cases, awaiting execution.

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7-576-A

ES

# CROWDS GREET BOGUS 'KARPIS'

Jack (Shaved the Fox) Loague  
Stirs Nation; Mistaken  
For Enemy No. 1

Stormed by federal agents, newspaper photographers, reporters and a mob of curious persons as he stepped from a plane in Chicago yesterday afternoon, Jack Loague could expect nothing more than an ordinary reception accorded any man held for investigation on petty criminal charges when he arrives in Memphis at 2:45 p.m. today.

For a brief period yesterday—from Omaha to Chicago—Loague, self-styled death-cell barber of California's fiend slayer, Edward (The Fox) Hickman, was believed to be Alvin Karpis, America's public enemy No. 1.

News that America's most badly wanted outlaw, Karpis, was riding a United Airlines plane spread over the country when Loague and Sgt. A. O. Clark, Memphis officer, who was returning him here on burglary charges, landed at Omaha.

## Talks About "John"

Loague had talked freely to the stewardess of the plane and boasted of being a pal of the dead Dillinger.

The stewardess talked freely to reporters at the Omaha airport. News wires hummed as the report got out that Karpis was in the toils of the law. "G-men" at Chicago and at Washington were bombarded with queries.

J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Washington bureau of investigation, expressed hope that it was Karpis. Melvin Purvis, Chicago Department of Justice chief, and nemesis of Dillinger, was skeptical.

From the Omaha airport they learned the prisoner believed to be Karpis was with a "federal agent" named "A. O. Clark." A hurried check proved there was no such agent. Then press dispatches flashed over the wires into Memphis and the bubble burst. The news went back revealing the true identity of Loague.

## Flattering Attention

The information, however, was too late to check Loague's reception at Chicago. Reported clad in lavender pajamas and heavily manacled, he was the object of flattering attention as crowds bore down on the airport to see America's No. 1 bad man.

But the "Karpis" who stepped from the plane was tall, heavy and blond, nothing at all like the small, brunet outlaw the nation's officers hunted and was fully dressed.

Sgt. Clark hurriedly explained the situation, then hustled the boastful Jack to a hotel. This morning they were to leave Chicago for Memphis over Chicago-Southern Airlines.

Loague, arrested a week ago at his Vale, Ore., chicken farm, skipped bond on burglary charges.

The PRESS-SCIMITAR,  
Memphis, Tenn.,  
May 24, 1935.

Re: ALVIN KARPIS, With Aliases, FUGITIVE;  
I. O. 1218, Et Al;  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPING.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Scheldt	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

7-576-A

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Kell	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Scheidt	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
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.....	.....

**Karpis 'Double' Flies  
Into Obscurity**  
 MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 25.—(AP)—After a brief taste of notoriety when he was mistaken for Alvin Karpis, No. 1 outlaw, Jack Loague, 36, "ex-hijacker," arrived today to face a burglary charge. The municipal airport was practically deserted as a plane bearing Loague arrived from Chicago.

7-576-A

THE CHICAGO AMERICAN  
 MAY 25 1935

**REPORT KARPIS TAKEN**  
 (By United Press)  
 OMAHA, Neb., May 23—A United Airlines plane which left here for Chicago at 12:10 p. m., today contained two Federal agents who had in custody a prisoner heavily manacled and clad in pajamas, believed to be Alvin Karpis, one of the few remaining southwestern desperadoes.

The KNOXVILLE NEWS SENTINEL,  
 Knoxville, Tennessee,  
 May 23, 1935.

Re: ALVIN KARPIS, WA, Fugitive; I.O. 1218;  
 ET AL;  
 Edward George Bremer, Victim,  
 KIDNAPING.

Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Baughman ..
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
Mr. Harbo .....
Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Schilder .....
Mr. Smith .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....

7-576-A



St. Paul Dispatch

May 25, 1935

## BARKER ARRIVES AT LEAVENWORTH

Bremer Kidnap in Prison  
Quarantine; May Go  
Elsewhere.

Arthur (Doc) Barker, under a life sentence following his conviction here in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, arrived today at the Federal penitentiary at Leavenworth to begin serving his term. He was taken from the county jail secretly Friday afternoon by a large squad of deputy United States marshals and guards, and put aboard a train. On his arrival at Leavenworth, according to an Associated Press dispatch, he will be held in quarantine at the prison for 30 days before being given a work assignment. However, his sentence by Judge Joyce was to "Leavenworth or such other institution as the attorney general may designate." He may be moved to the government's Alcatraz island prison for desperadoes.

7-576-A

Mr. Baughman .....  
 Chief Clerk .....  
 Mr. Clegg .....  
 Mr. Coffey .....  
 Mr. Edwards .....  
 Mr. Egan .....  
 Mr. Harbo .....  
 Mr. Keith .....  
 Mr. Lester .....  
 Mr. Quinn .....  
 Mr. Scheidt .....  
 Mr. Schilder .....  
 Mr. Smith .....  
 Mr. Tamm .....  
 Mr. Tracy .....  
 Miss Gandy .....

Mr. Tolson .....  
 Mr. Baughman .....  
 Chief Clerk .....  
 Mr. Clegg .....  
 Mr. Coffey .....  
 Mr. Edwards .....  
 Mr. Egan .....  
 Mr. Harbo .....  
 Mr. Keith .....  
 Mr. Lester .....  
 Mr. Quinn .....  
 Mr. Scheidt *ES* .....  
 Mr. Schilder .....  
 Mr. Smith .....  
 Mr. Tamm .....  
 Mr. Tracy .....  
 Miss Gandy .....

KIDNAPING  
 BREMER

**False Karpis Back  
 In Dixie for Trial**

MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 25—(AP)—  
 After a brief taste of notoriety  
 when he was mistaken for Alvin  
 Karpis, No. 1 outlaw, Jack Loague,  
 36, "ex-hijacker" came South today  
 to face a burglary charge. The mu-  
 nicipal airport was practically de-  
 serted as a plane bearing Loague  
 and Detective Sergeant A. O. Clark  
 arrived from Chicago. In Chicago  
 Thursday the rumor had spread  
 that the manacled prisoner said he  
 was Karpis and a large crowd  
 greeted him.

MILWAUKEE SENTINAL  
 MAY 26, 1935

7-576-A

Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Baughman .....
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
Mr. Harbo .....
Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Scheidt .....
Mr. Schilder .....
Mr. Smith .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....

## Kidnapers Hunted After Battle

SAN MARINO, Cal. May 26.—Government agents and police of three cities combed underworld haunts today for four men, believed members of an "outside mob" of kidnapers, following a furious gun battle last night in which a suspected gangster and a detective were shot.

The battle occurred at a rendezvous where federal men and detectives attempted to capture extortioners who had threatened to kill Herbert D. Ivey, millionaire Los Angeles banker, unless he delivered \$72,000 in cash.

A car resembling Ivey's kept the ransom rendezvous. After a chase, the kidnapers' car was forced to the curb, and in an exchange of shots Lieut. Perry Archer was wounded and a suspect believed to be Jack Williams, 28, was seriously wounded.

E S

7-576-A

CHICAGO HERALD & EXAMINER

MAY 27 1935

ST PAUL DAILY NEWS

May 27, 1935

Mr. Nathan	Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson	Mr. Tolson
Mr. Baughman	Mr. Baughman
Chief Clerk	Chief Clerk
Mr. Clegg	Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey	Mr. Coffey
Mr. Edwards	Mr. Edwards
Mr. Egan	Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo	Mr. Harbo
Mr. Keith	Mr. Keith
Mr. Lester	Mr. Lester
Mr. Quinn	Mr. Quinn
Mr. Scheidt	Mr. Scheidt
Mr. Schilder	Mr. Schilder
Mr. Spill	Mr. Spill
Mr. Tamm	Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy	Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy	Miss Gandy

KIDNAPING  
BREMER

IN WASHINGTON TODAY  
conferring on the forthcoming  
trial of Harry Sawyer, alleged  
fingerman in Bremer kidnaping,  
today is George F. Sullivan,  
United States district attorney.

MAY 27 1935 PM



7-576-P

Mr. Tolson ✓  
 Mr. E.A. Tamm ✓  
 Chief Clerk ✓  
 Mr. Clegg ✓  
 Mr. Coffey ✓  
 Mr. Edwards ✓  
 Mr. Egan ✓  
 Mr. Harbo ✓  
 Mr. Keith ✓  
 Mr. Lester ✓  
 Mr. Quinn ✓  
 Mr. Schilder ✓  
 Mr. Smith ✓  
 Mr. Tamm ✓  
 Mr. Tracy ✓  
 Mr. Gandy ✓

PORTLAND--SEARCH FOR ALVIN KARPIS, FUGITIVE, TURNED TODAY TO  
 PORTLAND--150 MILES FROM THE SCENE OF THE WEYERHAEUSER KIDNAPING,  
 JOHN J. KEEGAN, CAPTAIN OF DETECTIVES, SENT OUT A SQUAD OF MEN TO  
 HUNT FOR KARPIS, SAYING "WE HAVE A MIGHTY DEFINITE TIP THAT HE IS IN  
 THIS VICINITY."

5/23--R255P JM



7-576-A



St. Paul Daily News

May 28, 1935

Mr. Nelson  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Clegg  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

## Bremer Case Fugitive Seen In Portland, Is Tip To G-Men

PORTLAND, Ore., May 28. — (UP) — Search for Alvin Karpis, fugitive No. 1 public enemy, turned today to Portland — only 150 miles from the scene of the Weyerhaeuser kidnaping.

John J. Keegan, captain of detectives, sent out a squad of men to hunt for Karpis, saying "We have a mighty definite tip that he is in this vicinity."

With "G-men" reported to be hot on the trail of Alvin Karpis in Portland, Ore., near the scene of the Weyerhaeuser kidnaping, agents in St. Paul today were of the opinion that their "hunch" as published in The Daily News Saturday that Karpis-Barker gang was responsible for the snatching is more than mere rumor.

It was indicated Saturday that the remnants of the shattered gang, desperately in need of cash funds and with "nothing more to lose" took another chance on a kidnaping.

Karpis, Volney Davis and Harry Campbell, three of the leaders of the gang, are reported to be together.

7-576-A



Times 6-30-35  
**VOLNEY DAVIS  
 PLEADS GUILTY**

ST. PAUL, Minn., June 3 (U. S.).—Volney Davis, Karpis-Barker gangster rushed here from Chicago by chartered plane, pleaded guilty today to conspiracy in the \$200,000 Edward G. Bremer kidnaping because "the Government knew as much about the Bremer kidnaping as I did."

Federal Judge Joyce deferred sentence. Davis explained with a sickly grin:

"I pleaded guilty to the conspiracy charge because I knew I couldn't beat the G-men. I've been thinking of doing this for some time after reading accounts of the trial of several of the so-called Karpis-Barker gang members. I decided the Government knew just as much about the Bremer kidnaping as I did."

WASH TIMES 5/30/35

ES

7-576-11

Mr. Nathan.....  
 Mr. Tolson.....  
 Mr. Backus.....  
 Mr. Baughman.....  
 Chief Clerk.....  
 Mr. Clegg.....  
 Mr. Coffey.....  
 Mr. Edwards.....  
 Mr. Egan.....  
 Mr. Harbo.....  
 Mr. Keith.....  
 Mr. Lester.....  
 Mr. Quinn.....  
 Mr. Schloer.....  
 Mr. Smith.....  
 Mr. Tamm.....  
 Mr. Tracy.....  
 Miss Gandy.....

**Bremer Witness**



**MILDRED CLARK**  
 Alias Mildred Kuhlman,  
 sweetheart of Arthur Barker, of  
 the Karpis-Barker gang, who is  
 awaiting to be called to testify  
 in the Bremer case.

7-576-~~FT~~

25

Source Unknown

Wake - Recent

St. Paul Dispatch

May 20, 1935

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Scheidt ES  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

## FURTHER SIFT SEEN IN BREMER KIDNAPING

**Federal Grand Jury Prepares  
to Meet; May Delve Again  
Into \$200,000 Crime.**

The possibility of further inquiry into the \$200,000 Edward G. Bremer kidnaping was seen today as the Federal grand jury prepared to convene here Tuesday.

It will be the first meeting of this body since the close of the Federal court trial which ended Friday with the conviction of five defendants charged with conspiracy in the abduction and during which guilty pleas were made by two others.

In the course of the trial, which lasted nearly five weeks, considerable light was thrown on several phases of the case into which it is believed the grand jury now may inquire. Some observers saw the possibility today that one or two additional indictments may be returned, although the chance of this appeared rather small.

Meanwhile, the seven defendants whose guilt was established during the trial remained in Ramsey county jail today. An eighth defendant awaits arraignment.

The seven are Arthur (Doc) Barker, Oliver Berg, John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, Harold Alderton and James Wilson, all found guilty, and Byron Bolton and Elmer Farmer, who pleaded guilty. The eighth is Harry Sawyer, St. Paul underworld figure and alleged "finger man" in the case, who was arrested after the trial was under way and is expected to be arraigned about June 1.

Of the guilty seven, Barker and Berg have been sentenced to life

(Please Turn to Page 2, Col. 5.)

imprisonment, while the sentences of the others have been deferred. George A. Halsey, assistant United States district attorney, stated today that the latter sentences will not be imposed for at least a week.

In Barker's case, he is being held here pending word from Washington as to which institution he is to be sent.

Berg already is under a life sentence for robbery in Illinois and was brought here from the Joliet penitentiary, where it was being served. He is to be returned there by Captain J. A. Humphrey, chief guard at the institution, but the proceedings have been delayed while authorities here are waiting permission from Washington to send a deputy United States marshal with Humphrey when he takes back his prisoner. Berg's Federal life sentence for kidnaping is to start following completion of his life sentence for robbery, thus obviating the possibility that he might regain his liberty through pardon or parole.

With the cases of the seven defendants cleaned up, Department of Justice agents have been questioning Sawyer at intervals in the county jail, but the results of their inquiries are not known.

7-576-A

MONDAY, MAY 20, 1935

Published Daily Except Sunday, by New York Evening Journal, Inc.,  
220 South Street, New York City.  
President, William B. Hearst; Secretary, E. D. Fulton.

## Another Kidnaping Gang Wiped Out

By Federal Authorities, as Usual

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Arthur Barker and Oliver Berg get life sentences in St. Paul for the \$200,000 snatching of Edward Bremer, St. Paul banker, in January of last year.

Five others implicated in the crime get lesser sentences, and the Federal men are hot on the trail of the few remaining fugitives, the most notorious of whom is Al Karpis, now officially Public Enemy No. 1.

If the past performance of the Department of Justice is any guide, these men will be rounded up, and Mr. Karpis has an excellent chance of becoming the LATE Public Enemy No. 1.

All of which makes good reading for good citizens.

One more gang of kidnapers practically exterminated. One more menace to the safety of law-abiding persons removed.

But it would be even better reading if the city and State authorities throughout the country played a greater part in running down and catching or killing gangsters of this sort, and if State courts dealt as summarily with captured criminals as the Federal courts do.

In these respects the cities and States, generally speaking, have fallen down on their jobs.

The careers of Owney Madden and Dutch Schultz in New York are outstanding examples of that.

You can't fight crime with politics, pull or graft.

You need hardboiled judges on the bench, and hardboiled squads of officers who shoot first and argue second.

That is why the Federal Government gets its men, and why the States—including this State—don't.

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Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

7-576-H

# McLaughlin Gives Cocky Replies to Kidnap Questions

Apparently Cheered by  
Failure of U. S. to  
Shake Story

Apparently cheered by failure of government attorneys to shake his story on cross-examination, John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, alleged Bremer ransom changer on trial with seven others for kidnaping the St. Paul banker, late today was cockily, answering questions fired at him in St. Paul federal court by George A. Halsey, assistant prosecutor.

The tone of McLaughlin's testimony had undergone a complete change as he took the stand again after adjournment. A frequent reply to Mr. Halsey's questions as to what he had thought of the bundles of money given him by Dr. Joseph T. Moran in the Chicago gang hideout was: "Oh, I never gave that a thought."

McLaughlin flatly denied ever having seen William (Slim) Gibson, one of two guards posted to watch the money by Arthur (Doc) Barker.

As Halsey prodded the Chicago politician for an explanation of why, for six days in succession, he sent Phillip Delaney, a fellow defendant, into one south Chicago bank with \$4,000 packages of money to be changed to large denominations, McLaughlin airily answered:

"Oh, for no particular reason."

"And why did you never get out and cash the money yourself?" Halsey asked.

"It just didn't occur to me. No particular reason."

"Why didn't you put this money in your own account and draw a check to Dr. Moran?" Halsey asked.

"I might have done that all right. It just never occurred to me."

McLaughlin's cross-examination was expected to end today.

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Scheidt .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

7-576-A



St. Paul Dispatch

May 21, 1935

# DOOMED KIDNAPING TRIO



Awaiting transfer to Federal penitentiaries are these three men, convicted of conspiracy in the Edward G. Bremer kidnaping. Left is Arthur (Doc) Barker, sentenced to life, who told reporters that he would like "one good drunk" before leaving the county jail. Also sentenced to life in the \$200,000 kidnaping of the St. Paul banker is Oliver A. Berg (upper right). Lower right is Harold Alderton, whose home was used as the abduction hideout. He has not been sentenced. Berg was a money changer in the case.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Schmidt	.....
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

7-576-77  
Bureau  
To Bureau



**Clearer Line on Sawyer**

It was believed that if Wilson, Moran's assistant, would tell all he knows Sawyer might be more closely connected with the activities of the Barker-Karpis gang in Toledo and near Sandusky, Ohio, after the ransom money had been changed. Alderton, whose defense was blown sky-high by the jury's verdict, may be able to tell much more than his verbal statement revealed.

McLaughlin's importance is believed to center mainly on the Chicago underworld.

Although convicted of being a party to the Bremer kidnaping conspiracy, McLaughlin is wanted in Chicago for complicity in a \$20,000 Chicago mail robbery, and if he will talk freely it is believed that several cases can be broken with his testimony.

As he awaited sentence a sinister phrase in the testimony of Berg was recalled. Moran, Berg said, told him that he "knew some one in the racket" who made a business of passing hot money. Other testimony in the case showed McLaughlin's accomplices to have believed that the ransom money was the proceeds of "some big bank robberies." McLaughlin probably holds in his brain the key to several crimes.

**U. S. Never Quits**

On the basis of past tradition, the bureau of investigation never closes a case until every person, man or woman, involved is dead or behind the bars. A convicted criminal, unless he has an established reputation for silence or could not give credible

testimony to a jury is nearly always given an "opportunity to help the government."

Farmer, friend of mobsters by his own admission and guilty of the Bremer kidnaping conspiracy by his own plea, and McLaughlin, fixer and fence for the Chicago underworld, may talk in such a way as to rip the lid off the country's second largest city.

Bolton, Wilson and Alderton, along with Farmer may be able to throw a good deal of light on Sawyer's part in the Bremer and other crimes.

Counsel for McLaughlin indicated he would carry the case to a higher court. Whether similar action would be taken in behalf of Barker, Alderton and Wilson was not determined. There was no possibility, however, that Berg would appeal inasmuch as he already was under a life sentence before his conviction.

7-576-A

# Boss McLaughlin's Stand Admits Changing Bremer Ransom Money

**DIDN'T KNOW  
WHAT IT WAS,  
HE TELLS JURY**

**Son Appears as Witness  
in Attempt to Clear  
Politician**

A 68-year-old father and his 18-year-old son took the witness stand Friday in the Bremer trial in St. Paul federal court to wage a grim fight to free the father, John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, of kidnap conspiracy charges.

Eager to return the favor of his father, whose word freed him from charges in connection with the \$200,000 ransom money changing, John J. McLaughlin, Jr., answered questions for a few minutes and asserted that he had never heard his father refer to him as "Jimmy."

The testimony was an attempt by Robert Rensch, defense counsel, to impeach previous statements of Agent Ralph Brown, who gave damaging evidence of the senior McLaughlin's part in changing the money paid for the release of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, in February, 1934.

## McLaughlin Takes Stand

Brown had testified concerning an oral statement given by McLaughlin in Cook county jail after his arrest in April, 1934, during which conversation, according to Brown's testimony and corroborative written notes, the former Illinois state senator referred to his young son as "Jimmy."

After his son left the stand and received a parental nod of approval, the portly, gray-haired McLaughlin limped to the witness stand and testified that he did not know the nature of the money he obtained in \$10,000 bundles of \$5 and \$10 denominations from the room of Dr. Joseph P. Moran, fugitive gangland doctor.

Before launching into events of the six-day money changing period, between April 19 and April 24, 1934, McLaughlin told of his rise and financial fall as political boss in the city of Chicago.

## Traces His Political Career

He started as a stockyards worker after a business law education and rose to the heights as a town supervisor, state senator and political boss who simultaneously conducted a general contracting and real estate business.

The financial crash of 1929 spelled the end of the McLaughlin real estate fortune and he became assistant manager of a Chicago restaurant, continuing to perform political favors for his multitude of friends.

Performance of such a favor in restoring the medical license of Dr. Moran at Maywood, Ill., in 1931 and 1932 led to a professional and social acquaintance between the two men, McLaughlin testified.

Sometime between April 12 and 15, 1934, Dr. Moran telephoned McLaughlin and arranged for an appointment in the Sherman hotel in Chicago's loop.

## Meets Dr. Moran

Dr. Moran there introduced McLaughlin to a Mr. Adams from La Salle, Ill., who wanted some money changed. McLaughlin agreed to perform the service and on the next day met the two men again at the hotel and received a package of money wrapped in a newspaper, McLaughlin told the jury.

Dr. Moran said, "This is all right and I'll see that you are taken care of," McLaughlin testified.

McLaughlin's subsequent story substantiated testimony given earlier in the day by Phil Delaney and William Vidler, defendants, who described their money-changing transactions at numerous Chicago banks.

All three men rode in McLaughlin's car, driven by Delaney. Once each day, sometimes after Vidler had been taken home, they would stop near the intersection of Cicero avenue and Irving Park boulevard, in west Chicago. There McLaughlin would leave the car and disappear, according to Vidler and Delaney, who weren't "interested" where McLaughlin went.

## Identifies Berg

McLaughlin maintained there were no previous arrangements between himself and Dr. Moran concerning his commission for compensation to Vidler and Delaney, corroborating Vidler's and Delaney's testimony on the latter point.

Oliver Berg, defendant, was identified by McLaughlin as one of two strangers in Moran's room on McLaughlin's third visit.

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	✓
Chief Clerk	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Edwards	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Keith	✓
Mr. Lester	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Scheidt	ES
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Smith	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

7-576-A

Wash Times  
5/22/35

## Another Gang Wiped Out

The Department of Justice has added the scalps of two more kidnapers to its belt—two more in a collection that has been accumulating ever since the murder of the Lindbergh child.

Arthur Barker and Oliver Berg get life sentences in St. Paul for the \$200,000 snatching of Edward Bremer, St. Paul banker, in January of last year.

Five others implicated in the crime get lesser sentences, and the Federal men are hot on the trail of the few remaining fugitives, the most notorious of whom is Al Karpis, now officially Public Enemy No. 1.

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All of which makes good reading for good citizens.

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But it would be even better reading if the city and State authorities throughout the country played a greater part in running down and catching or killing gangsters of this sort, and if State courts dealt as summarily with captured criminals as the Federal courts do.

In these respects the cities and States, generally speaking, have fallen down on their jobs.

The careers of Owney Madden and Dutch Schultz in New York are outstanding examples of that.

You can't fight crime with politics, pull or graft.

You need hardboiled judges on the bench, and hardboiled squads of officers who shoot first and argue second.

That is why the Federal Government gets its men, and why the States don't.

Mr. Nathan ✓  
Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. Baughman ✓  
Chief Clerk ✓  
Mr. Clegg ✓  
Mr. Coffey ✓  
Mr. Edwards ✓  
Mr. Egan ✓  
Mr. Harbo ✓  
Mr. Keith ✓  
Mr. Lester ✓  
Mr. Quinn ✓  
Mr. Scheidt ✓  
Mr. Schilder ✓  
Mr. Smith ✓  
Mr. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Tracy ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓

7-576-A

Wash. Times

5-22-25

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Scheidt	ES
Mr. Schilder	.....
Mr. Smith	.....
Mr. Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

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7-576-A

34-33



- Mr. Nathan.....
- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. Baughman.....
- Chief Clerk.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Edwards.....
- Mr. Egan.....
- Mr. Harbo.....
- Mr. Keith.....
- Mr. Lester.....
- Mr. Quinn.....
- Mr. Schilder.....
- Mr. Smith.....
- Mr. Tamm.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Miss Gandy.....

*[Handwritten signature]*

CHICAGO--A MANACLED PRISONER BROUGHT TO CHICAGO BY PLANE TODAY  
 FROM KANSAS WAS IDENTIFIED AS JACK LOAGIE, WANTED IN TENNESSEE ON A MURDER  
 CHARGE.

*[Handwritten scribble]*

2576-A  
 2-6-36



Mr. Nathan .....  
 Mr. Tolson .....  
 Mr. Baughman .....  
 Chief Clerk .....  
 Mr. Clegg .....  
 Mr. Coffey .....  
 Mr. Edwards .....  
 Mr. Egan .....  
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 Mr. Keith .....  
 Mr. Lester .....  
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 Mr. Schildt .....  
 Mr. Schilder .....  
 Mr. Smith .....  
 Mr. Tamm .....  
 Mr. Tracy .....  
 Miss Gandy .....

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., June 28 (AP) — Federal agents boarded a plane today with a man whom they said was CRACK LOASUE, wanted in Tennessee on a charge of murder. The prisoner was arrested in Vicksburg, Miss., and brought here by Special Agent in Charge W. A. Clark, federal officer of Tennessee, took charge of the prisoner.

*Handwritten signature*

7576-A

*Enforce*

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Scheidt	ES
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Smith	✓
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

*Enfor*



7-576-A

MAILED 12 MAY 1941



*E. J. [unclear]*

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schacht	ES
Mr. Schilder	
Mr. Smith	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK  
SUBJECT: [unclear]  
[The following text is heavily obscured by noise and is largely illegible.]

*Res to Mr. Lester.*

NY 53183260



7-576-A

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By Federal Authorities, as Usual,

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In these respects the cities and states, generally speaking, have fallen down on their jobs. However, it has been a different story in Cook County in recent times, with State's Attorney Courtney smashing kidnap gangs and other kinds of criminal gangs.

You need hardboiled judges on the bench, and hardboiled squads of officers who shoot first and argue second.

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Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	✓
Chief Clerk	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Edwards	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Keith	✓
Mr. Lester	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Scheidt	✓
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Smith	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

7-576-F7

THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

MAY 28 1935



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One more gang of kidnapers practically exterminated. One more menace to the safety of law-abiding persons removed.

But it would be even better reading if the city and state authorities throughout the country played a greater part in running down and catching or killing gangsters of this sort, and if state courts dealt as summarily with captured criminals as the federal courts do.

In these respects the cities and states, generally speaking, have fallen down on their jobs. However, it has been a different story in Cook County in recent times, with State's Attorney Courtney smashing kidnap gangs and other kinds of criminal gangs.

You need hardboiled judges on the bench, and hardboiled squads of officers who shoot first and argue second.

That is why the federal government gets its men, and why the states so often don't.

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Keith .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Scheldt .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Smith .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

*Wrip*  
*file*  
*1-11*

7-576-A

THE CHICAGO AMERICAN  
MAY 28 1935

**DEFENDANT'S**

**STORY**

**BLOWS UP**

*The Minneapolis Star*

*7-576-A5*

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	✓
Chief Clerk	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Edwards	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Schuler	✓
Mr. Smith	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

made that in  
before a jury  
in which to ad-  
and recognized  
Barker-Karpis co-  
present when  
the money alleg-  
ed. If was the  
record that the  
methods.  
Wille-  
per-  
on



# WILSON UNDER FIRE FOR THIRD DEGREE CHARGE

'U. S. Agents Hammered  
Confession Out of Me,'  
He Says

BUT FALTERS WHEN  
CLOSELY QUIZZED

Blemer Defendant Ad-  
mits He Told Story  
Against Advice

Wilson admits aiding fingerprint mis-  
tation, Page 7.

Testimony of James Wil-  
son, confessed go-between in  
changing of the \$200,000  
ransom paid for release of  
Edward G. Bremer, that a  
confession was beaten out of  
him by Chicago federal  
agents today blew up in St.  
Paul federal court when  
Wilson practically admitted  
that it was his fear of gang  
reprisals which made him  
claim third degree duress.

The youthful assistant of Joseph  
(Doctor) Moran, underworld plastic  
surgeon who allegedly arranged  
with John J. (Boss) McLaughlin for  
the peddling of the ransom money  
had testified earlier today that "they  
beat me so hard that they broke  
one of my ears" opened the ques-  
tion of his fear of the gang himself.

His admission that fear of  
a gang reprisal "may have  
caused him to testify that he  
was given a third degree" came  
to a carefully worded question  
asked by George A. Halsey, as-  
sistant United States district  
attorney.

Judge M. M. Joyce, presiding at  
the trial of Arthur (Doc) Barker and  
seven others on kidnap charges, im-  
mediately took up the questioning  
himself.

Judge Takes Hand in Quiz  
"Why are you afraid of the men  
who have been mentioned and who  
are not on trial?" Judge Joyce ask-  
ed. Halsey had mentioned Alvin Kar-  
pis, fugitive chieftain of the Barker-  
Karpis gang, Harry Campbell and  
Volney Davis.

"I'm not afraid for myself as  
long as I am locked up here,"  
Wilson replied. "But I am afraid  
for my mother and sister."

"What is there about your testi-  
mony that leads you to be afraid  
members of the gang might hurt  
your folks?" Judge Joyce continued.  
"It's the part about the opera-  
tions on their fingerprints."

Story Goes to Pieces

Wilson's testimony that he had  
been given a third degree went to  
pieces during his examination by his

own counsel. Thomas Newman ask-  
ed him to state just when the beat-  
ing occurred, and the youthful un-  
derworld doctor's assistant became  
confused and was unable to fix the  
time in repeating earlier testimony.

Halsey's cross-examination brought  
out that Newman had opposed Wil-  
son's telling a third degree story.  
"He said that all the other defend-  
ants planned to tell that same story  
and that it wouldn't go so good,"  
Wilson stated.

Ralph Brown and John Medala  
were the two special agents whom  
Wilson charges "hammered a con-  
fession out of me in the ninth floor  
office of the justice department  
in Chicago."

Judge Joyce had excused the jury  
from the courtroom.

"First they showed me a picture  
of Slim Gibson which I identified,"  
Wilson said under questioning by  
Newman. He referred to Agents Me-  
dala and Brown. "Then they showed  
me a very indistinct picture of Ollie  
Bert (a defendant). They asked me  
who that was."

"And what did you reply?" New-  
man asked.

"I told them I couldn't be certain  
who that was. The picture didn't  
look like anyone I knew."

"You'll have to do a little bet-  
ter than that," Medala said they  
told him. "And then, without  
any warning at all, both of them  
started punching me. I tried to  
cover up but one of them got on  
one side and the other on the  
other side and they punched my  
head until I couldn't answer  
anything at all."

"What happened after that?" Mr.  
Newman asked.

"You've Got to Talk

"Then they went out of the room  
for a few minutes," Wilson contin-  
ued. "They came back with their  
coats off and their sleeves rolled up."

"We hate to do this, but  
you've got to talk," they told me.  
Then they started punching me  
again without giving me any  
chance to talk. They hit my  
ears and pretty soon my mouth  
and ears were bleeding. Then  
they let up, and one of them  
went into Mr. Purvis' office."

He referred to Melvin Purvis, head  
of the Chicago office of the bureau  
of investigation, department of jus-  
tice.

Wilson, picked up in Chicago on  
Sept. 5, 1934, was, according to his  
story, brought to the Bankers' build-  
ing office of the justice department,  
fingerprinted, photographed, and  
then turned over to Brown and  
Medala.

U. S. Says He Signed

The government contends that he  
signed a statement before a notary  
public on that day in which he ad-  
mitted having seen and recognized  
members of the Barker-Karpis gang  
and having been present when the

origin of the money allegedly chang-  
ed by John J. (Boss) McLaughlin was  
discussed. If was the government's  
attempt to get his statement into  
the record that brought Mr. New-  
man's offer to prove third degree  
methods.

Says Ear Broken

Wilson, according to his story, was  
permitted to leave the bureau office  
on the same afternoon that he was  
picked up.

"I went out on the west side in  
Chicago and I went to a doctor to  
get treatment," he said. "My head  
was painin' me something awful.  
The doctor took a lot of clotted blood  
out of my ears and that seemed to  
relieve the pain. I got him to make  
out a signed statement of what the  
injuries were and he said that the  
tympanum of one ear had been  
broken. I told him that I had been  
in a fight."

Newman offered the statement of  
the Chicago doctor in evidence, but  
Judge Joyce ruled that it could not  
be received. Newman stated that  
Wilson did not have sufficient money  
to bring the doctor from Chicago to  
testify.

Wilson, according to the govern-  
ment, had promised to return to the  
bureau office when called, but dis-  
appeared. Through friends the bu-  
reau's agents traced him to Denver,  
Colo., and brought him back.

"They took every stitch of my  
clothes and put me into a room with  
a cot in it at the Bankers' build-  
ing," Wilson said concerning his re-  
turn to Chicago.

Says Crowley Hit Him

Agent Samuel Crowley, later taken  
by Baby Face Nelson in a gun fight  
near Chicago, was the first to enter  
the room after he had been taken  
there, Wilson said.

"You're a louse," he told me.  
"You've been running around telling  
people we beat you." He hit me in  
the mouth and told me that I wasn't  
be more of the same unless I talked.  
Then he gave me some paper and told  
me to start writing all you know,"  
Wilson testified.

When Mr. Halsey took Wilson for  
cross-examination on the offer to  
prove he asked:

Q—Isn't it the truth that no one  
so much as put a hand on you while  
you were in the Bankers' building?

A—No it isn't. They beat me, and  
they told me they had a lot of other  
methods of getting people to talk.

Q—All right. But isn't it really the  
truth that you were beaten up by  
sluggers after you left the Bankers'  
building that day because they  
thought you had talked while you  
were there?

Q.—And you want this court to believe that you went all the way out to the west side in Chicago and told the doctor there that you had been in a fight and wanted a statement of your injuries and that you didn't tell him that the agents had beaten you?

A.—That's what I told him.

Q.—And that these agents, after beating you up, immediately let you loose so you could go back to Spring Valley a free man if you'd only work with them?

A.—That's the truth.

#### Story Incoherent

Wilson, in describing what happened after he had been brought back from Denver on Sept. 23, 1934, told a weird and incoherent story of having been taken to a hotel and of how he had feared that agents were going to pitch him out of a top-story window if he did not tell the truth.

"Crowly took me over there and he answered a phone call shortly after we got there," he said. "He just said 'second floor' into the telephone and then hung up. Then he told me that another agent was coming over and that they were going to take me to the top floor," Wilson said.

Q.—(by Heisey)—Did they take you to the top floor?

A.—No. The other agent never came over at all.

Q.—Now did anyone say that they might pitch you out of the top story window?

A.—No. I asked Crowly if they were going to pitch me out of the

#### top story window.

From Wilson's story it was plain that, whether he was beaten or not, he had a gangster's fear of the methods of the bureau of investigation.

#### Everyone for Himself

As defendants in the kidnap trial took the stand to testify in their own behalf, it appeared that the defense of individuals named in the indictment would be an "every man for himself" proposition.

Testimony of Berg and Wilson has implicated several of the defendants who heretofore were connected only through their own confessions.

Barker, the one leader of the gang who is now on trial, was heaped with guilt by the defense testimony through which Berg sought to make himself out a bank robbery money-changer rather than a knowing ransom changer. McLaughlin today was again involved in the plot through the defense testimony of Wilson.

**ACCUSED SLAYER ARRESTED**  
**CHICAGO, May 23 (I.N.S.)**—John W. Loague, wanted on a murder charge in Memphis, Tenn., was taken from a United Airlines plane here today. The prisoner, previously reported to have been Alvin Karpis, Public Enemy No. 1, was definitely identified as Loague by Department of Justice agents.

WASH. TIME.

Mr. Nathan .....  
 Mr. Tolson .....  
 Mr. Baughman .....  
 Chief Clerk .....  
 Mr. Clegg .....  
 Mr. Coffey .....  
 Mr. Edwards .....  
 Mr. Egan .....  
 Mr. Glavin .....  
 Mr. Ladd .....  
 Mr. Nichols .....  
 Mr. Rosen .....  
 Mr. Quinn .....  
 Mr. Schmitt .....  
 Mr. Schilder .....  
 Mr. Smith .....  
 Mr. Tamm .....  
 Mr. Tracy .....  
 Miss Gandy .....

- 7-576-A MAY 23 1935

THE DENVER POST  
Denver, Colo.  
5/24/35

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Scheidt .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

## Prisoner Poses as Karpis But Goes to Jail Anyway

Chicago, May 24.—(A. P.)—Jack Loague was just another citizen in a jam with the law Friday as he awaited resumption of his journey to Memphis, Tenn., to face burglary charges.

Thursday, however, Loague was, to a reading public that saw him thru his own description relayed by an airplane stewardess, as "Alvin Karpis, public enemy No. 1," traveling eastward by plane, attired in pajamas and chains and in custody of two federal agents.

Since for several hours few persons knew the difference, Loague attracted as much attention as had he been "Public Enemy Karpis."

Then the plane bearing him eastward landed at Chicago and the mystery was cleared hurriedly.

Blond and large, and wearing handcuffs, in addition to a full outfit of clothing, Loague came into

view of the crowd of federal agents, police, reporters, cameramen and excitement seekers who had been attracted by the reports of "Karpis in custody," which originated at Omaha, Neb., five hours earlier.

Karpis, when last seen, was brunet and slender. The difference was immediately apparent.

Loague was further identified by Detective Sergt. A. O. Clark of Memphis, who had him in charge for the trip from Vale, Ore., to Memphis.

## Says He's Alvin Karpis To Break Up Monotony

By United Press

CHICAGO—Jack Loague, wanted in Memphis, Tenn., for questioning in connection with a murder and some burglaries, lightened the tedium of an airplane trip from Boise, Ida., Thursday by spreading the word that he was Alvin Karpis, Public Enemy No. 1.

He also claimed friendship with Ray Hamilton, Machine Gun Kelly and Baby Face Nelson.

Loague, a prisoner in charge of Serg. A. O. Clark, was so convincing that he persuaded the United Airlines pilot of his identity as Karpis and the pilot responded to a radio message from the Chicago office that the man was indeed Karpis.

Bwd.

7-576-A

ES



St. Paul Daily News  
May 24, 1935

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn ✓  
Mr. Schilder ✓  
Mr. Schuler  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

Thirty-one indictments including two against Edward Clarence Johnson, former Hamline university athlete and now a Preston, Minn., athletic coach, for a dime chain letter racket, the first of the kind in the northwest, were returned late today by the federal grand jury.

Also returned in the batch were two indictments against Stanley Karmell, the convict who made one escape from the Ramsey county jail and was prevented from making a second only by a "tip" to Sheriff Tom Gibbons from Byron Bolton, held at the jail in connection with the Edward G. Bremer kidnaping case.

Johnson was indicted in one true bill for mail fraud, and in the other for mail lottery. He faces a possible total penalty of seven years in a federal prison, or fines of up to \$2,000, or both. Under the mail fraud indictment he could be sentenced up to a \$1,000 fine or five years in prison, or both, and on the lottery charge, up to a \$1,000 fine or two years in prison, or both. There are no minimums on the sentences.

Johnson is alleged by postal inspectors to have mimeographed some 100 copies of a dime chain letter, and to have sent them out with his name not only on the top but on the bottom as well, and with the names of several relatives in between. Johnson has declared that he received but eight dimes as a result of the chain letters.

Karmell already is under sen-

tence to serve five years in Leavenworth penitentiary for a mail-box theft. While he was being held in the Ramsey county jail he escaped, but the same day was recaptured in Minneapolis. Then during the Bremer kidnaping trial, on the Bolton tip, it was found that he had loosened the mortar around bricks at his window so that the bars could have been pulled out with slight effort. One indictment against him charges him with actually escaping from custody, and the other with attempting to escape.

All of the other indictments were of comparatively minor offenses, including liquor, narcotic and several other offenses.

With the report of the jury, the court excused eight of the members, and dismissed the other 19 until further call. When another grand jury meeting is needed, 13 additional grand jurors will be called to complete the panel, it was explained.

St. Paul Dispatch  
5-24-35

The grand jury also returned an indictment against Stanley Karmell, "escape king" of Ramsey county jail, who already is under a five-year Leavenworth penitentiary sentence for mailbox theft. The indictment charges him with escaping from a Federal institution. It is based on his escape March 21 from the county jail, which is designated as a Federal prison. Following his recapture, he made two other attempts to escape.

- 7-576-A

- Egon*
- Mr. Nathan .....
  - Mr. Tolson .....
  - Mr. Baughman .....
  - Chief Clerk .....
  - Mr. Clegg .....
  - Mr. Coffey .....
  - Mr. Edwards .....
  - Mr. Egan .....
  - Mr. Harbo .....
  - Mr. Keith .....
  - Mr. Lester .....
  - Mr. Quinn .....
  - Mr. Scheidt *ES* .....
  - Mr. Schilder .....
  - Mr. Smith .....
  - Mr. Tamm .....
  - Mr. Tracy .....
  - Miss Gandy .....

**Prisoner Not Karpis;  
Just a Braggart, He**

Chicago, May 22 (AP).—A garrulous prisoner who had kicked up a flurry while being rushed across the West in a plane by claiming he was Alvin Karpis, Public Enemy No. 1, was identified by authorities as Jack Loague, a burglary suspect, when he reached the Chicago Airport late today.

Detective Sergt. A. O. Clark, of the Memphis (Tenn.) police department, identified Loague as his prisoner and dispelled rampant rumors that the notorious Karpis has been captured. Clark said he had gone to Vale, Oreg., to get the suspect and was returning him to Memphis for trial on burglary charges.

*WASH POST*  
*5-24-35*

*ES*

*7-576-A*



# **Prisoner Not Karpis; Just a Braggart, He**

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Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

WASH. POST

7-576-R

MAY 24 1935

61

## Arrest Denied

NAME OF KARPIS GIVEN BY PRISONER ON PLANE.



ALVIN KARPIS.

By the Associated Press.

J. Edgar Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, today denied that a man who allegedly identified himself under arrest in Omaha as Alvin Karpis—the much-sought outlaw—was, in fact, Karpis.

An airlines stewardess in Omaha had said a maniacled airplane passenger in the custody of two men gave his name as that of the public enemy No. 1.

When the word sped to Washington, however, inquiries at the Department of Justice brought the quick denial from Hoover.

"We would be glad to hear it, if true," he said.

The man claiming to be Karpis passed through Omaha today on a United Airlines plane in the custody of two men believed to be Federal agents. The prisoner said he had been captured in a ranch near Boise, Idaho.

Federal agents in Omaha denied knowing of the matter.

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Scheidt .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

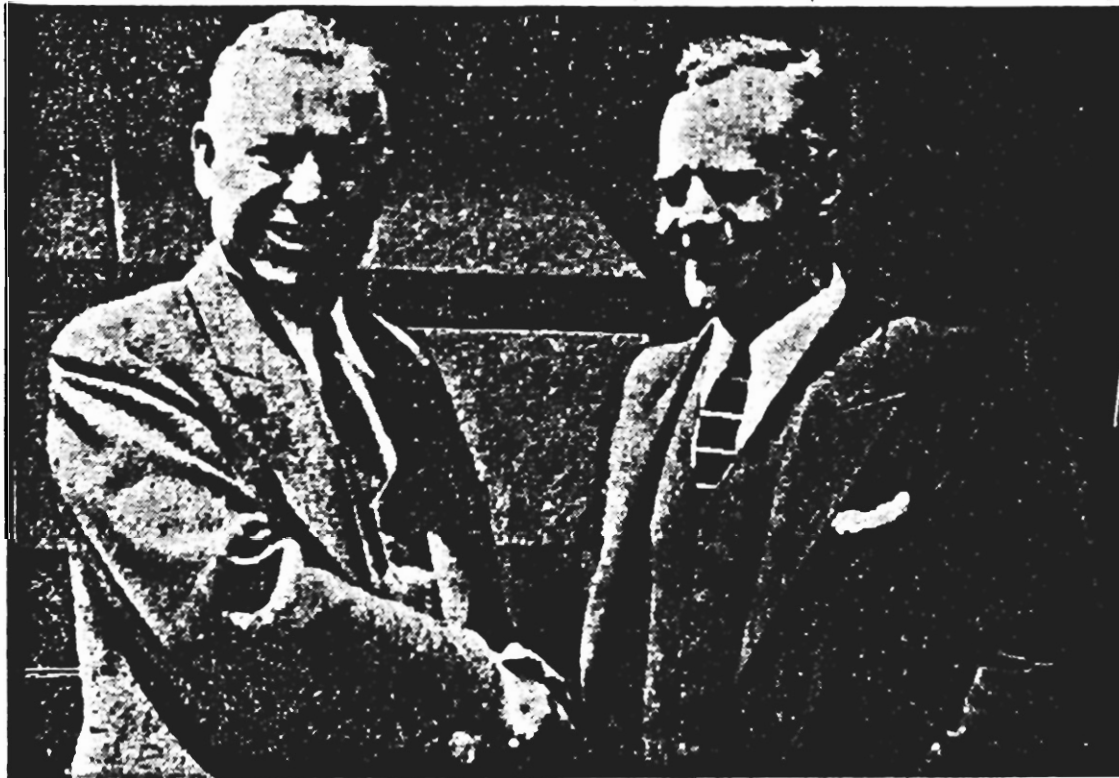
WASH. STAR

7-576-A

MAY 28 1935



**CONVICTED**—John J. ("Boss") McLaughlin (left), with James J. Wilson, former medical student at Northwestern University, shown just after they were found guilty at the Bremer kidnap trial at St. Paul yesterday. Sentence was deferred.



**VINDICATED**—Philip Delaney (left) and Edward Vidler, Chicagoans, shown congratulating each other after they had been freed at the Bremer kidnap trial at St. Paul yesterday. They were accused of exchanging the ransom money. International News photo.

CHICAGO HERALD & EXAMINER

MAY 18 1935

# Five Convicted in Bremer Kidnaping; Two Get Life Term

Barker and Berg  
Draw Severe  
Sentences.

**TWO SET FREE**

McLaughlin, Wil-  
son and Alderton  
Wait Penalty.

(Pictures on Back Page.)

ST. PAUL, May 17.—An-  
other blow at the kidnap  
racket—life sentences for  
Arthur ("Doc") Barker and  
Oliver Berg, leaders in the  
\$200,000 conspiracy and kid-  
naping of Edward G.  
Bremer, St. Paul banker—  
followed their conviction by  
a federal court jury here  
today.

Federal Judge M. M. Joyce,  
in pronouncing life terms on  
Barker, co-ringleader in the  
plot, and Berg, said:

"Kidnaping is the one crime  
that the people of this country  
will not tolerate."

A jury of nine men and three  
women brought in guilty verdicts  
after twenty-one hours of delibera-  
tion.

## Two Released

Besides Barker and Berg, those  
convicted were John J. ("Boss")  
McLaughlin, former Chicago poli-  
tician, accused of passing a large  
part of the ransom there; James  
J. Wilson and Harold Alderton.  
Their sentences were deferred.

District Attorney G. F. Sullivan  
indicated they will be sentenced in  
about two weeks. A special term  
of court is slated for May 27.

Edward Vidler and Philip De-  
laney, Chicagoans, whom the gov-  
ernment had accused of helping in  
changing the record ransom pay-  
ment into innocuous currency, were  
fined.

Barker, pal of Alvin Karpis, cur-  
rent public enemy No. 1, and Berg,  
a lifer in Joliet, Ill., prison on a  
murder charge, heard their sen-  
tences unmoved.

Two others of the gang had plead-  
ed guilty before the trial ended.

## Search Spurred

Spurred on by the victory, fed-  
eral officials announced tonight  
that search for the remaining fugi-  
tives, the most notorious of whom  
is Karpis, "will be pushed until ev-  
ery last one is dead or in prison."

Bremer was kidnaped early in  
January, 1934, held for twenty-one  
days in the home of Alderton, in  
Bensenville, Ill., and released near  
Rochester, Minn., after \$200,000 in  
ransom had been paid.

Still to be tried in the case is  
Harry Sawyer, alleged "finger man"  
in the kidnaping and former under-  
world czar, who was recently cap-  
tured in Pass Christian, Miss., and  
brought here.

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Baughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Scheidt  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

CHICAGO HERALD & EXAMINER

MAY 18 1935

7-576-A

DENVER ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS  
DENVER, COLORADO  
MAY 18, 1935

## PAIR GET LIFE TERMS IN BREMER KIDNAPING

By Associated Press

ST. PAUL—Another stunning blow at the kidnap racket—life sentences for Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg, leaders in the \$200,000 Bremer conspiracy—followed quickly on their conviction by a federal court jury here Friday.

"Kidnaping," said Federal Judge M. M. Joyce, in pronouncing life terms on Barker, co-ringleader in the plot, and Berg, "is the one crime that the people of this country will not tolerate."

A jury of nine men and three women brought guilty verdicts against five of the seven defendants in the month-old trial for the crime against Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, after 21 hours' deliberation. Edward Vidler and Philip Delaney, Chicagoans, whom the government had accused of helping in changing the record ransom payment into innocuous currency, were freed.

Barker, pal of Alvin Karpis, current public enemy No. 1, and Berg, a lifer in Joliet, Ill., prison on a murder charge, heard their sentences unmoved.

Sentencing of John J. McLaughlin, former Chicago politician, accused of passing a large part of the ransom there, and of James J. Wilson and Harold Alderton, all convicted along with Barker and Berg, was deferred.

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Schmidt ES  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

ES

7-576-A



# U.S. SPURRED ON IN CRIME DRIVE

DETROIT NEWS, MAY 18, 1935

## 5 Convictions in Bremer Case Open Way for Roundup of Karpis and Others.

ST. PAUL, May 18.—(P)—Crushing a part of the Barker-Karpis mob through conviction of one of the leaders and four alleged associates, the Federal Government today made plans to embark on a roundup of fugitive kidnapers and bank robbers.

Satisfied with the outcome of the trial here of the kidnapers of Edward G. Bremer, J. Edward Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, informed H. E. Anderson, district chief here, that the Federal forces now will concentrate their efforts on both the extermination of fugitive kidnapers and bank robbers.

### TWO GET LIFE TERMS.

A Federal Court jury yesterday convicted Arthur (Doc) Barker, co-leader of the gang with Alvin Karpis; Oliver Berg, Joliet, Ill., penitentiary lifer; John J. McLaughlin and James J. Wilson, Chicago, and Harold Alderton, Bensenville, Ill., of conspiracy in the kidnaping in January, 1934, of Bremer, a St. Paul banker. The jury acquitted Edward Vidler and Phillip Delaney, Chicago.

Barker and Berg were sentenced to life imprisonment. Sentences of the other three convicted, along with the punishment for Byron Bolton, Chicago, and Elmer Farmer, Bensenville, who pleaded guilty, was deferred.

Heading the list of gangsters sought especially for complicity in the \$200,000 Bremer kidnaping is Alvin Karpis, now the nation's No. 1 outlaw.

### CAMPBELL SECOND ON LIST.

Others sought are Harry Campbell, who with Karpis escaped a Federal trap of gunfire in Atlantic City last January; Volney Davis, who escaped from Federal agents at Yorkville, Ill.; William Weaver, former convict and alleged active participant in the banker's kidnaping; Willis Harrison, former tavern keeper of Hammond, Ind.; Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Chicago physician, alleged to have performed operations to obliterate the finger prints of Karpis, Barker, Freddie Barker (now deceased), Harrison, Davis and Campbell.

Harry Sawyer, St. Paul, named as the "finger man" in the case, is in the county jail here awaiting trial.

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Keith .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Smith .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

7-576-4



THE MILWAUKEE

## Barker Gets Life Sentence

Four Others Convicted in Bremer Kidnaping Case; Two Acquitted

St. Paul, Minn. — Arthur (Doc) Barker was convicted of conspiracy in the kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, Friday and was sentenced to life imprisonment by Federal Judge M. M. Joyce, who imposed a similar sentence upon Oliver A. Berg, Illinois convict.

When Barker and Berg stood up to be sentenced, Judge Joyce said:

"Arthur Barker, you have no defense in this case. No one could doubt your guilt. You have had a fair trial. Kidnaping is one crime that the people of this country will not tolerate."

It was here that the cool headedness that took Barker unflinchingly through one of the most sensational kidnapings in history went to pieces. The blustering gang chief whose eyes never flickered as he wielded a deadly machine gun to blaze one of the most notorious records in modern criminal annals, quavered like a leaf. The deputy United States marshal to whom he was manacled was forced to steady him.

### Can't Escape by Pardon

Berg is a "lifer" from Illinois. In re-sentencing him, Judge Joyce said his life term on the Bremer charge would start at the conclusion of the life sentence he now is serving.

Barker's only comment after sentence was pronounced, made to his attorney, John De Courcy, was: "The jury has the last say."

Three other defendants were convicted also, but sentence was deferred. They were:

Harold Alderton, in whose home at Bensenville, Ill., Bremer was held prisoner 21 days; John J. McLaughlin, 68-year-old former political leader in Chicago, and James J. Wilson, 27-year-old former Northwestern university medical student. McLaughlin said he would appeal the conviction.

Freed were William Vidler, Chicago "bookie," and Philip Delaney, former restaurant and tavern proprietor in Chicago and intimate friend of McLaughlin.

### Sentence Two Later

The seven defendants were all tried on a charge of conspiracy under the Lindbergh kidnap law, which calls for penalty upon conviction ranging up to life imprisonment. The prison term is discretionary with the court.

Byron Bolton, alleged machine gunner for the Barker-Karpis mob, and Elmer Farmer, Bensenville (Ill.) tavern keeper, both of whom pleaded guilty, were not in court and will be sentenced later.

Bremer, youthful president of the Commercial State bank, was in court as the verdict was announced.

### Nine Still Sought

Although 11 persons were brought to trial Apr. 15, the defendant list was reduced to seven because of the two pleas of guilty and two dismissals.

Mrs. Edna (Rabbits) Murray, known as "the kissing bandit," and Jess Doyle, Kansas City mobster, were freed, on motion of the government, when the prosecution rested. Mrs. Murray was returned to the Missouri state prison from which she escaped while serving a 25-year term for hold-up. Doyle faces a charge of robbing a bank in Okemah, Okla.

The government has accounted for 13 of 22 persons indicted. The thirteenth is Harry Sawyer, captured recently in Pass Christian, Miss., and subsequently lodged in jail here. He is charged with being the "finger man" in the Bremer case. He will be tried later.

Still uncaptured are Alvin Karpis, Harry Campbell, William Weaver, William J. Harrison, Myrtle Eaton, Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Volney Davis and two persons known only as "John Doe" and "Richard Roe."

## Dillinger's Attorney Must Stand Trial

Chicago, Ill. — U. S. Federal Judge William H. Holly Friday ordered Louis P. Piquett, bushy haired Dillinger lawyer, to trial June 17 on charges of harboring Homer Van Meter.

Van Meter, diminutive lieutenant of the Dillinger gang, was killed by law enforcement officers.

Piquett was acquitted in January on charges of harboring Dillinger after the latter's escape from the Crown Point (Ind.) jail Mar. 3, 1934. He pleaded that his affairs with the outlaw were "the privileged confidences between attorney and client."

Judge Holly gave Piquett's attorney, John E. Burns, until June 3 to file a plea of former acquittal in which he will argue that the new charges are the same as those on which a jury acquitted him.

MILWAUKEE JOURNAL  
SAT MAY 18, 1935

7-576-A E S

# FIVE IN BREMER KIDNAP GANG ARE CONVICTED

## Barker and Felon Are Given Life Sentences.

ST. PAUL, Minn., May 17—(Universal)—The government today won guilty verdicts against Arthur (Doc) Barker, leader of the Barker-Karpis gang, and four others in the bold \$200,000 abduction of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, in January of last year.

Barker and Oliver (Izzy) Berg, the latter already a "lifer," immediately were sentenced by Federal Judge M. M. Joyce to serve life terms in prison. Two others of the gang had pleaded guilty before the trial ended.

### JURY ARGUES 20 HOURS.

The jury which brought in the verdict had been deliberating 20 hours. The trial was in progress five weeks. At its end today the record stood:

Convicted:  
Barker, ring-leader in the actual kidnaping, sentenced to life.

Berg, sentenced to life.

John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, Chicago gambler and former state legislator, accused of handling the ransom money, sentence deferred.

Harold Alderton, guard for Bremer when he was held captive at Bensenville, Ill., sentence deferred.

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Scheidt .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

KIDNAPING  
BREMER

### TWO WIN ACQUITTALS.

James J. Wilson, one of the ransom money changers, sentence deferred.

Pleaded guilty:

Byron Bolton, machine gunner for the Barker-Karpis gang.  
Elmer Farmer, at whose house in Bensenville Bremer was held.

Acquitted:

William F. Vidler, Chicago gambler, accused as one of the money changers.

Philip Delaney, Chicago tavern keeper.

To be tried:

Harry Sawyer, alleged "finger man" in the Bremer kidnaping and former underworld czar here, recently captured in Pass Christian, Miss.

At large:

Alvin Karpis, remaining king-pin of the outlaws, accused as one of the actual kidnapers.

Harry Campbell, who, with Karpis, shot his way out of a police trap in Atlantic City last winter.

Volney Davis, captured by "G men" recently only to escape by dashing a glass of beer into the face of one of his captors.

Dr. Joseph P. Moran, underworld physician, alleged to have performed face lifting and finger print erasure operations upon gang members.

Mr. Nathan .....  
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Mr. Lester .....  
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Mr. Scheidt .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

MILWAUKEE SENTINAL  
SAT. MAY 18, 1935

7-576-F1

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William F. Vidler, Chicago gambler, accused as one of the money changers.

Philip Delaney, Chicago tavern keeper.

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Harry Sawyer, alleged "finger man" in the Bremer kidnaping and former underworld czar here, recently captured in Pass Christian, Miss.

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Harry Campbell, who, with Karpis, shot his way out of a police trap in Atlantic City last winter.

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- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schildt .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Smith .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Mr. Gandy .....

7-576-F7

## Here's Bremer Jury That Convicted 5 and Freed 2



THE JURY WHICH CONVICTED FIVE MEMBERS of the Barker gang of the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer and acquitted two others at St. Paul is shown above just before it was dismissed. In the first row, left to right, are: Homer Blanchard, Mrs. Alice Hall, Miss Maud Brown, Miss Mary McQuade, Harry Jones and Frank Beatty; second row, Robert Barkhuff, William Scherf, E. M. Buckminster, Hubert Frenk, George Guiter and Earl L. Bateman. Below are Philip Delaney (left) and William Vidler being congratulated on their acquittal by Kathleen Delaney, daughter of the freed man.

27

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Judge M. M. Joyce sentenced Barker and Berg to serve life imprisonment in federal penitentiary. Sentence was imposed immediately after the verdict was returned Friday.

Judge Joyce announced the three remaining defendants will be sentenced May 27. Two defendants who pleaded guilty in the course of the trial, Elmer Farmer and Byron Bolton, will be sentenced "in due course of time," the court said.

Two of the defendants were found not guilty Friday. They were Philip Delaney and William Vidler of Chicago.

**Harry Sawyer**, former St. Paul underworld leader who was captured three weeks ago at Pass Christian, Miss., and is charged as the "finger man" in the kidnaping case, will be brought to trial at an early term of federal court in St. Paul, George Sullivan, United States district attorney, said Saturday. Sawyer is held in jail in St. Paul.

Federal agents are still searching for six fugitives named in the original indictment. Chief among them are Alvin Karpis and Harry Campbell, associates of Barker.

McLaughlin was found guilty on the strength of evidence that he dealt in part of the \$200,000 in ransom bills, attempting to dispose of the "hot" money for the gang. His attorneys indicated an appeal will be taken from his conviction soon, and that one of the chief claims of the defense will be a plea that the "conspiracy" in the kidnapping case ended, legally, after Bremer was released by his kidnapers.

The five defendants were found guilty Friday after a federal court jury in St. Paul had deliberated 20 hours. The case had been on trial longer than five weeks.

7-576-A



# 4 GUILTY KIDNAPERS

## BREMER CASE VERDICT END OF LONG TRIAL

ST. PAUL, Minn., May 17 (US).—In another smashing blow at kidnap gangs, the Government today won guilty verdicts against Arthur ("Doc") Barker and four others of the Barker-Karpis gang in the bold \$200,000 ransom abduction of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, in January of last year.

Barker and Oliver ("Izzy") Berg, the latter already a "lifer," immediately were sentenced by Federal Judge M. M. Joyce to serve life terms in prison. Two others of the gang had pleaded guilty before the trial ended, running the Government's count up to seven eligible for prison sentences.

Spurred by the victory, Federal officials announced tonight that search for the remaining fugitives, the most notorious of whom is Alvin Karpis, public enemy No. 1, "will be pushed until every last one is dead or in prison."

### 20 HOURS

The jury which brought in the verdict had been deliberating 20 hours. The trial was in progress five weeks. Those convicted were: Arthur ("Doc") Barker, ring leader in actual kidnaping, sentenced to life; Oliver ("Izzy") Berg, sentenced to life; John J. ("Boss") McLaughlin, Chicago gambler and former State legislator, accused of handling ransom money, sentence deferred; Harold Alderton, guard for Bremer when he was held captive at Bensenville, Ill., sentence deferred; and James J. Wilson, one of the ransom money changers, sentence deferred.

Byron Bolton, machine gunner for the Barker-Karpis gang, and Elmer Farmer, at whose house in Pennsylvania ave. as they fled from a home in Kew Gardens.

William F. Vidler, Chicago gambler, accused as one of the money changers, and Philip Delaney, Chicago tavern keeper, were acquitted.

Mr. Nathan	_____
Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Baughman	_____
Chief Clerk	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Edwards	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Keith	_____
Mr. Lester	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Schildt	ES
Mr. Schilder	_____
Mr. Smith	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

7-576-A



Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Latta	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Schuler	.....
Mr. Smith	.....

Barker, who many times stood fearless behind a spitting machine gun, turned graven as he heard himself sentenced to lift imprisonment. Ordered to stand up and

**Continued on Page 6**

7-576-17

# DAILY NEWS

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NEW YORK'S

PICTURE NEWSPAPER

Entered as 2nd class matter, Post Office New York, N. Y.

36 Pages

New York, Saturday, May 18, 1935\*

2 Cents

## BARKER AND BERG GIVEN LIFE FOR BREMER SNATCH

(Continued from page 1)

caused of passing a large part of the ransom there and of James J. Wilson and Harold Alderton, all convicted along with Barker and Berg, was deferred.

It was at Alderton's home in Bensenville, Ill., that the banker was held prisoner 21 days by the Barker-Karpis gang, which later contacted McLaughlin, and others, for aid in palming off the ransom money for other bills. Berg acted as the gang's guard and liaison man with the money changers.

Wilson, a chauffeur for Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Chicago, now a fugitive, assisted McLaughlin together with Berg, Vidler and Delaney. The latter pair, however, declared they were not aware the bills were Bremer money and the jury by its verdict agreed with them.

(Other picture on page 1)



(By Associated Press)  
**BEHIND BARS—A LIFETIME POSE.**—Kidnap racket was dealt knockout blow yesterday when Arthur (Doc) Barker, desperado (above), was found guilty in Federal Court, St. Paul, of the \$200,000 kidnaping of Edward Bremer. Barker and Oliver Berg, leaders of the largest ransom kidnaping in American history, were sentenced to life imprisonment. Three accomplices, including John (Boss) McLaughlin, a Chicago politician, were also convicted for passing ransom money.

—Story on page 1.

7-576-A

# 2 GET LIFE FOR SNATCH OF BREMER

St. Paul, May 17 (AP).—Another stunning blow at the kidnap racket—life sentences for Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg, leaders in the \$200,000 Bremer conspiracy—followed quickly on their conviction by a Federal Court jury here today.

"Kidnaping," said Federal Judge M. M. Joyce in pronouncing life terms on Barker, co-ringleader in the plot, and Berg, "is the one crime the people of this country will not tolerate."

A jury of nine men and three women brought in a guilty verdict today against five of the seven defendants in the month-old trial for the crime against Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, after 21 hours' deliberation. Edward Vidler and Philip Delaney, Chicagoans, whom the Government had accused of helping to change the record ransom payment into innocuous currency, were freed.

## Show No Emotion.

Barker, pal of Alvin Karpis, current public enemy No. 1, and Berg, a lifer in Joliet, Ill., prison on a murder charge, heard their sentences unmoved. The penalties brought to 18 the number of life



Doc Barker

He gets life for Bremer snatch.

sentences for kidnaping since the passage of the Federal Lindbergh law. Two kidnapers have been sentenced to death and 80 persons now have been convicted since Federal authorities embarked on their war against abductions.

Sentencing of John J. McLaughlin, former Chicago politician ac-

(Continued on page 4, col. 2)

## Bracelets for Two



(Associated Press Wirephoto)  
This exclusive picture, made in St. Paul yesterday, shows John J. (Boss) McLaughlin (left), Chicago politician, and James Wilson, former Northwestern University student, handcuffed.

# BREMER KIDNAP VERDICT SPURS KARPIS HUNT

Federals Press Chase  
of Rest of Gang as  
2 Get 'Life'

ST. PAUL, Minn., May 18.  
—As Arthur "Doc" Barker  
and Oliver "Izzy" Berg re-  
mained in prison today under  
life sentences in the \$200,000  
ransom kidnaping of Edward  
G. Bremer, Federal authorities  
redoubled their hunt for still  
uncaught members of the gang.  
The most notorious of the  
fugitives is Alvin Karpis, public  
enemy No. 1, for whom Federal  
aides said, the search "will be  
pushed until he is dead or in  
prison."

## 5-WEEKS TRIAL.

The jury which brought in the  
verdict had been deliberating 20  
hours. The trial was in progress  
five weeks. Others convicted  
besides Parker and Berg, were:  
John J. McLaughlin, Chicago  
gambler and former State legis-  
lator, accused of handling the  
ransom money.  
Harold Alderton, guard for  
Bremer when he was held cap-  
tive at Bensenville, Ill.  
James J. Wilson, one of the  
ransom money changers.  
Sentence was deferred in the  
case of these three.

## 2 GUILTY PLEAS.

Byron Bolton, machine gunner  
for the gang, and Elmer Farmer,  
at whose house Bremer was held,  
pleaded guilty.  
William F. Vidler, Chicago  
gambler, accused as one of the  
money changers, and Philip  
Belaney, Chicago tavern keeper,  
were acquitted.  
Four of the gang members have  
been slain since the Bremer kid-  
naping, among them Freddie and  
"Ma" Barker, at Oklawaha, Fla.

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Baughman	
Chief Clerk	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Edwards	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Keith	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Schmitt	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

7-576-A



## JURY CONVICTS FIVE IN THE BREMER CASE

'Doc' Barker and Berg Are Sentenced at Once to Life Terms as Kidnap Leaders.

### DELAY IN OTHER SENTENCES

McLaughlin Among Those Found Guilty at St. Paul—Two Defendants Acquitted.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.  
ST. PAUL, May 17.—Five defendants in the Edward G. Bremer kidnapping case were convicted and two were acquitted by a jury in United States District Court here today. Those convicted face maximum sentences of life imprisonment.

The defendants found guilty were Arthur (Doc) Barker, Oliver A. Berg, Harold Alderton, John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, former politician of Chicago, and James Wilson.

Not guilty verdicts were returned in favor of William Vidler and Paul Delaney, accused by the government of having had a hand in the changing of the Bremer ransom money.

The verdict, delivered in a tense and hushed court room, came after twenty hours of deliberation by the jury. Immediately after its reading George F. Sullivan, United States District Attorney and chief prosecutor, arose and moved that sentence be imposed on Barker and Berg, the alleged leaders in the kidnapping plot.

Judge Matthew M. Joyce sentenced them to life imprisonment in a Federal penitentiary—the maximum penalty under the so-called Lindbergh Kidnapping Law.

Barker, associate of Alvin Karpis, bandit and gang leader, had nothing to say. Berg, now serving a life term at Joliet on a murder charge, was silent also.

"Will Not Tolerate Kidnapping."

"You had no defense in this case," Judge Joyce said first, addressing Barker. "You had a fair trial. You were surrounded by all the constitutional protections. Kidnapping is one crime that people of this country will not tolerate. The jury heard all the evidence and found you guilty. Therefore it is the judgment of this court that you be confined in the Federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, or in such other institution as the proper authorities may determine, for the period of your natural life."

Imposing a similar sentence on Berg, Judge Joyce told him:

"The story you told was not believed. It was a fantastic tale by which others of less intelligence than the jurors might have been swayed."

It was said the government would delay asking for sentences on the other defendants convicted.

Barker was charged by the government with having been one of the actual abductors of Bremer. Berg, who is under sentence of life imprisonment in Illinois, was charged with having arranged places for the gang to hide.

McLaughlin, the government charged, was one of the chief money changers, and Alderton kept the house at Bensenville, Ill., where Bremer was held captive.

General announced that Alvin Karpis and Arthur R. Barker, alias 'Doc' Barker, had been definitely identified by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the United States Department of Justice as two of the kidnapers of Edward G. Bremer.

"Subsequent investigative inquiry, continuing over the course of practically a year, tended to establish the complicity in this kidnapping of other members of this gang, including Volney Davis, Harry Campbell, Elmer Farmer, Harold Alderton, William Weaver, Harry Sawyer, William J. Harrison, Byron Bolton, Joseph P. Moran, Oliver A. Berg, John J. McLaughlin, William Vidler, Philip J. Delaney, James J. Wilson and Myrtle Eaton. Indictments were returned at St. Paul, Minn., on Jan. 22, 1935, in the cases of these individuals.

"In the meantime, on Jan. 16, 1935, Fred Barker and his mother, Kate Barker, were located in a house on Lake Weir, Oklawaha, Fla., and after a gun battle with special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, lasting several hours, were killed while resisting arrest. In the meantime the hide-out, or place where the victim had been held by his kidnapers, was located as Bensenville, Ill., thus establishing interstate transportation.

"Arthur 'Doc' Barker was taken into custody on the night of Jan. 8, 1935, on the streets of Chicago. On the same night Russell Gibson, alias 'Rusty' Gibson, notorious gunman, escaped prisoner and wanted for other crimes, in addition to complicity in this kidnapping, was killed while attempting to escape from the rear of a Chicago apartment.

"Harry Sawyer, one of those indicted, was apprehended at Pass Christian, Miss., where he had been located for a number of months, operating a lottery, by special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, during the course of the trial at St. Paul, Minn.

During the course of the St. Paul trial Elmer Farmer pleaded guilty, as did Byron Bolton.

Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Baughman	.....
Chief Clerk	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Edwards	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Keith	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
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Wilson, a medical student and associate of Dr. Joseph Moran, a Chicago fugitive, had a hand in the gang operations in Chicago after the payment of the ransom, it was charged.

Mr. Bremer, victim of the kidnapping, was in court at the time the verdict was read.

One of the most complicated criminal cases on record, the trial called for the combined efforts of more than 100 persons—attorneys, Department of Justice men, criminal experts and witnesses. It was the first case in which the Federal Government has attempted to convict not only the principals but every one who has any connection with the crime.

Bremer was kidnapped in St. Paul Jan. 17, 1934, when returning from taking his daughter to school. In constant fear for his life, he was held twenty-one days in Bensenville, Ill. His release came upon payment of \$200,000 ransom.

#### Cummings Hails Verdict.

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, May 17.—Hailing the verdict in the Bremer kidnapping trial as "highly gratifying," Attorney General Cummings declared tonight that the result was "a renewed illustration of the value of persistence and tenacity in following up crimes of this character."

"I am greatly pleased with the work of the United States Attorney at St. Paul, George F. Sullivan, and his associates," he added.

In connection with the closing of the case, the department said:

"On March 22, 1934, the Attorney



## 2 Bremer Kidnapers Get Life, 3 Others Convicted, 2 Are Freed

'Doc' Barker and Berg Pay Heaviest; 'Lindbergh Law' Sentences Now Total 80

By The Associated Press

ST. PAUL, May 17.—Another stunning blow at the kidnaping racket, life sentences for Arthur ("Doc") Barker and Oliver Berg, leaders in the \$200,000 Bremer conspiracy, followed quickly on their conviction by a Federal Court jury here today. "Kidnaping," said Judge M. M. Joyce in pronouncing life terms on Barker, co-ring leader in the plot, and Berg, "is the one crime that the people of this country will not tolerate."

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McLaughlin, Wilson and Alderton



Associated Press photo  
Arthur ("Doc") Barker

probably will be sentenced at the same time as Byron Bolton, machine gunner for the Barker-Karpis mob, and Elmer Farmer, Bensenville tavern keeper. Bolton pleaded guilty at the outset and turned state's evidence. His story placed Barker as one of the gang that actually seized the victim on January 17, 1934. Farmer pleaded guilty as the defense rested. He aided in making arrangements with Alderton for the hideout where Bremer was imprisoned.

The life sentence imposed upon Barker marked the end of the crime trail of the outlaw members of the notorious Barker family. Arthur's brother, Fred, and his mother, known in the underworld as "Ma" and the strategist of the trio, were killed in a gun battle with Federal agents last January at Oklawaha, Fla.

For the kidnaping of Bremer the law still is seeking Karpis, Harry Campbell, William Weaver, William J. Harrison, Myrtle Eaton, Dr. Moran, Volney Davis and two unidentified persons. All have been indicted for participation in the abduction.

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Ladd .....  
Mr. Nichols .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Starnes .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

7-576-A

NEW YORK POST, SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1935

## 'G' MEN MAP DRIVE ON KIDNAP GANGS

Bank Robbers Also Hunted in  
Mop-Up After Bremer  
Convictions

ST. PAUL, May 18 (AP).—Crushing a part of the Barker-Karpis mob through conviction of one of the leaders and four alleged associates, the Federal Government today made plans to embark upon a roundup of fugitive kidnapers and bank robbers.

Satisfied with the outcome of the trial here of the kidnapers of Edward G. Bremer, J. Edgar Hoover, national chief of the Justice Department's Bureau of Investigation, informed H. E. Andersen, district chief here, that the Federal forces now will concentrate their efforts on both the extermination of fugitive kidnapers and bank robbers.

### Gang Is Convicted

A Federal Court jury yesterday convicted Arthur (Doc) Barker, co-leader of the Barker-Alvin Karpis gang; Oliver Berg, Joliet, Ill., penitentiary lifer; John J. McLaughlin and James J. Wilson, Chicago, and Harold Alderton, Bensenville, Ill., of conspiracy in the kidnaping in January, 1934, of Bremer, St. Paul banker. The jury acquitted Edward Vidler and Philip Delaney, Chicago.

Barker and Berg were sentenced to life imprisonment. Sentences of the other three convicted, along with the punishment for Byron Bolton, Chicago, and Elmer Farmer, Bensenville, who pleaded guilty, was deferred.

Mr. Nathan	✓
Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Baughman	✓
Chief Clerk	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Edwards	✓
Mr. Egan	✓
Mr. Harbo	✓
Mr. Keith	✓
Mr. Lester	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Schmitt	✓
Mr. Schilder	✓
Mr. Smith	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

7-576-17

✓ *Scranton Times*  
5-18-35

## BARKER AND BERG, TWO LEADERS IN PLOT, ARE GIVEN LIFE SENTENCES

St. Paul, May 18.—Five of the seven members of the Barker-Karpis gang yesterday were convicted of the \$200,000 kidnapping in January, 1934, of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul bank president.

Arthur (Doc) Barker, leader of the bank robbing kidnap gang, and his coleader, Oliver (Izzy) Berg, Chicago rooming house keeper, were immediately sentenced to life imprisonment. They probably will be taken to Alcatraz prison.

The other three convicted were John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, Chicago politician; James J. Wilson, chauffeur for the fugitive Dr. Joseph P. Moran, physician who destroyed the fingerprints for the gang; and Harold Alderton, whose home at Bensenville, Ill., was used as the hideout, and where Bremer was held prisoner.

### Three Women Are Freed.

Federal Judge M. M. Joyce remanded these three into custody of the marshal and announced they would be sentenced in "due time."

Those freed by the jury of nine men and three women were Phillip Delaney, bartender who was charged with aiding in changing the ransom money and William E. Vidler, Chicago bookmaker also accused of aiding in switching the "hot" kidnap ransom into other bills.

Byron Bolton, one of the twenty-six persons indicted by a federal grand jury in St. Paul in January of this year, pleaded guilty at the start of the trial and testified for the government, that he was hired by George Goetz, to stand guard over Bremer during his captivity.

A second who pleaded guilty at the conclusion of the defense case was Elmer Farmer, of Bensenville, Ill., tavernkeeper who aided in the hideout arrangements.

Conviction of the gangsters was marked as one of the greatest victories in the history of the government's long fight to stamp out the kidnapping evil. Authorities here were jubilant when informed of the jury's verdict, which ended fifteen months of investigation and prosecution of the suspects.

Three of those indicted in the case were cleared when the government dropped its charges against Bruno Austin, Jess Doyle and Edna Murray, notorious as Kansas City's "kissing bandit." Four others connected with the kidnapping are dead. They are: Freddie Barker, brother of Doc; Mrs. Kate Barker, mother of the convicted gangster; George Goetz, known to have been a guard at the hideout, and Russell Gibson, slain by federal agents at the time of Bolton's arrest in Chicago.

### Judge Praises Jurors.

Judge Joyce, in commenting to the jury on their verdict, said that "by verdicts such as yours the incentive to kidnap will soon pass."

When Barker and Berg stood up to be sentenced, Judge Joyce said: "Arthur Barker, you have no defense in this case. No one could

Mr. Baughman .....
Chief Clerk .....
Mr. Clegg .....
Mr. Coffey .....
Mr. Edwards .....
Mr. Egan .....
Mr. Harbo .....
Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Scheidt .....
Mr. Schilder .....
Mr. Smith .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....

7-576-A

# BARKER AND 4 FOUND GUILTY IN BREMER CASE

Government to Pursue Search  
for Karpis and Remnants  
of Mob with Great Vigor

ST. PAUL, Minn., May 17 (U.S.). In another blow at kidnap gangs, the Government today won guilty verdicts against Arthur "Doc" Barker and four others of the Barker-Karpis gang in the \$200,000 ransom abduction of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, in January of last year.

Barker and Oliver "Izzy" Berg, the latter already a "lifer," immediately were sentenced by Federal Judge M. M. Joyce to serve life terms in prison. Two others of the gang had pleaded guilty before the trial ended, running the Government's count up to seven eligible for prison sentences.

## KARPIS STILL AT LARGE

Federal officials announced tonight that search for the remaining fugitives, the most notorious of whom is Alvin Karpis, Public Enemy No. 1, "will be pushed until every last one is dead or in prison."

The jury which brought in the verdict had been deliberating 20 hours. The trial was in progress five weeks. At its end today, the record stood:

### Convicted:

Arthur "Doc" Barker, ring-leader in the actual kidnaping, sentenced to life.

Oliver "Izzy" Berg, sentenced to life.

John J. "Boss" McLaughlin, Chicago gambler and former State legislator, accused of handling the ransom money, sentenced deferred.

Harold Alderton, guard for Bremer when he was held captive at Bensenville, Ill., sentence deferred.

James J. Wilson, one of the ransom money changers, sentence deferred.

## TWO PLEADED GUILTY

### Pleaded guilty:

Byron Bolton, machine gunner for the Barker-Karpis gang.

Elmer Farmer, at whose house in Bensenville Bremer was held.

### Acquitted:

William F. Vidler, Chicago gambler, accused as one of the money changers.

Philip Delaney, Chicago tavern keeper.

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Washington Herald  
May 18, 1935

7-576-A

THE WAS

**Gets Life Sentence**



Associated Press Photo.  
**ARTHUR (DOC) BARKER.**

## Bremer Case Kidnapers Get Life Sentences

**Barker and Berg Learn  
Penalty on Conviction;  
3 Awaiting Fate.**

*By the Associated Press.*

St. Paul, May 17.—Another stunning blow at the kidnap racket—life sentences for Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg, leaders in the \$200,000 Bremer conspiracy—followed quickly on their conviction by a Federal court here today.

"Kidnaping," said Federal Judge M. M. Joyce in pronouncing life terms on Barker, co-ring leader in the plot, and Berg, "is the one crime that the people of this country will not tolerate."

A jury of nine men and three women brought guilty verdicts today against five of the seven defendants in the month-old trial for the crime against Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, after 21 hours' deliberation. Edward Vidler and Philip Delaney, Chicagoans, whom the Government had accused of helping in changing the record ransom payment into innocuous currency, were freed.

Barker, pal of Alvin Karpis, current public enemy No. 1, and Berg, a lifer in Joliet (Ill.) prison on a murder charge, heard their sentences unmoved. The penalties brought to 18 the number of life sentences for kidnaping since the passage of the Federal Lindbergh law. Two kidnapers have been sentenced to death and 80 persons have now been convicted since Federal authorities embarked on their war against abductions.

Sentencing of John J. McLaughlin, former Chicago politician accused of passing a large part of the ransom there and of James J. Wilson and Harold Alderton, all convicted along with Barker and Berg, was deferred.

It was at Alderton's house in Bensenville, Ill., that the banker was held prisoner 21 days by the Barker-Karpis gang, which later contacted McLaughlin and others for aid in palming off the ransom money for other bills. Berg acted as the gang's guard and liaison man with the money changers.

Wilson, a chauffeur for Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Chicago, now a fugitive, assisted McLaughlin together with Berg Vidler, and Delaney, the latter pair, however, declared they were not aware the bills were Bremer money and the jury by its verdict, agreed with them.

McLaughlin, Wilson and Alderton probably will be sentenced at the same time as Byron Bolton, machine gunner for the Barker-Karpis mob, and Elmer Farmer, Bensenville, tavern keeper.

### Confession Involves Barker.

Bolton pleaded guilty at the outset and turned state's evidence. His story definitely connected Barker with the crime as one of the gang that actually seized the victim Jan. 17, 1934.

Farmer pleaded guilty as the defense rested. He aided in making arrangements with Alderton for the hideout where Bremer was imprisoned.

Curtly, Judge Joyce told Barker, "You have no defense in this case. No one could doubt your guilt. You have had a fair trial."

To Berg, the judge said "The story you told was not believed a bit." Berg had contended he had not known he was serving the men who had snatched Bremer.

The life sentence imposed upon Barker marked the end of the crime trail of the outlaw members of the notorious Barker family. Arthur's brother, Fred, and his mother, known in the underworld as "Ma" and the strategist of the trio, were killed in a gun battle with Federal agents last January at Oklawaha, Fla.

For the kidnaping of Bremer the law still is seeking Karpis, Harry Campbell, William Weaver, William J. Harrison, Myrtle Eaton, Dr. Moran, Volney Davis, and two unidentified persons. All have been indicted for actual participation in the abduction.

Gratification at the outcome of prosecutions in the Bremer kidnaping case was expressed last night by Attorney General Cummings. The Department of Justice issued a history of the case, concluding with the Attorney General's comment:

"The result in the Bremer kidnaping case is highly gratifying and is a renewed illustration of the value of persistence and tenacity in following up crimes of this character. I am greatly pleased with the work of the United States attorney at St. Paul, Mr. George Sullivan, and his associates."

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Keith .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

WASH. POST

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MAY 18 1935



Mr. Nathan .....  
 Mr. Tolson .....  
 Mr. Baughman .....  
 Chief Clerk ..  
 Mr. Clegg .....  
 Mr. Coffey .....  
 Mr. Edwards .....  
 Mr. Egan .....  
 Mr. Harbo .....  
 Mr. Keith .....  
 Mr. Lester .....

Mr.  
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 Mr.

# INCREASE GUARD TO BAR ESCAPE OF 'DOC' BARKER

## Bremer Kidnaper Faces Life Sentence.

St. Paul, Minn., May 18.—[Special.]  
 —Seeking to avert the remotest possibility of a jail delivery by associates of Arthur [Doc] Barker, authorities here today placed a double guard about Ramsey county jail and stationed expert machine gunners in strategic locations.

Barker, who with Oliver Berg yesterday received a life sentence for the Edward G. Bremer kidnaping, was scheduled to be sent to Alcatraz, Cal.

### Sentence Date May 27.

John J. [Boss] McLaughlin, Harold Alderton, and James Wilson are to be sentenced May 27, Judge M. M. Joyce announced.

Attorneys for McLaughlin said they will appeal his conviction. Other defendants indicated they will start their terms without opposition.

McLaughlin is wanted in Chicago for complicity in a \$230,000 mail robbery. If he will talk freely it is believed several cases can be broken.

### Two Plead Guilty.

To be sentenced at the same time are Elmer Farmer and Byron Bolton, who pleaded guilty to the charges. James Vidler and Philip Delaney of Chicago were acquitted.

Federal agents still are searching for six fugitives named in the original indictment in the \$200,000 abduction which took place in January, 1933. Chief among these are Alvin Karpis and Harry Campbell, associates of Barker.

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CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE

MAY 19 1935

DENVER ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS  
Denver, Colorado  
May 19, 1935

### Mystery Woman Held As Witness in Kidnaping

By United Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — A woman whose name is closely guarded by the government will be one of the chief witnesses in the attempt to convict Harry Sawyer of conspiracy in the Edward C. Bremer kidnaping, it was disclosed Saturday.

The "mystery woman" has been under government protection for several weeks, it was disclosed. Sawyer is scheduled for arraignment June 1. He is accused as the "finger-man" in the \$200,000 Bremer abduction.

Meanwhile five persons convicted Friday in the Bremer case remained at the county jail.

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Chief Clerk .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Schmidt .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Smith .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

7-576-17

Mr. Laughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Scheidt  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

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Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Laughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

# **'BOSS' TO KIDNAP FAIR**

KIDNAPING/  
BREMER

## **Bremer Sentences To Be Passed May 27**

ST. PAUL, Minn., May 18 (I.N.S.)—John J. "Boss" McLaughlin, Chicago's erstwhile gambling overlord, who on Friday took his Bremer kidnaping conspiracy conviction with a smile, will be sentenced by Federal Judge M. M. Joyce on May 27, it was announced today. Sentences will be imposed at the same time on James J. Wilson, nephew of and chauffeur for the fugitive or slain Dr. Joseph P. Moran, and Harold Alderton, of Bensenville, Ill., "guard" over Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, when he was held prisoner for three weeks in January and February, 1934, pending payment of \$200,000 ransom to Barker-Karpis gangsters.

7-576-17

Telephone

## 'BOSS' TO LEARN KIDNAP FATE

*Bremer Sentences  
To Be Passed  
May 27*

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Chief Clerk .....  
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Mr. Edwards .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Keith .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Miss Gandy .....

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WASH. HERALD

THE DENVER POST  
Denver, Colo.  
May 18, 1935

# U. S. AGENTS PREDICT

## HUNT PRESSED FOR REMAINING FUGITIVES IN BREMER KIDNAPING

Government Is Ready to Proceed With Trial of Harry Sawyer, Former Underworld Czar, Accused As 'Finger Man' in Abduction.

### (CRIME NEVER PAYS)

St. Paul, Minn., May 18.—(I. N. S.)—Federal authorities, having won the conviction of five defendants in the \$200,000 Edward G. Bremer kidnaping conspiracy, Saturday predicted the early capture of Alvin Karpis, current public enemy No. 1 and most notorious of the Barker-Karpis gang members still at large.

"Search for the remaining fugitives under indictment for the Bremer abduction will be pressed until all are dead or behind penitentiary walls," it was announced at the department of justice bureau of investigation office here.

Besides Karpis, accused as one of the actual kidnapers of the wealthy St. Paul banker, the principal fugitives are Harry Campbell, who shot his way out of a trap at Atlantic City last winter with Karpis; Dr. Joseph Moran, alleged to have altered the faces and fingerprints of gang members, and Volney Davis.

### U. S. READY TO PROCEED WITH SAWYER TRIAL

George F. Sullivan, United States attorney, said the government is ready to proceed with the trial of Harry Sawyer, former underworld czar here, who was accused as the "finger man" in the kidnaping of Bremer Jan. 17, 1934. Sawyer recently was captured at Pass Christian, Miss.

Arthur (Doc) Barker and Oliver Berg, who were sentenced immediately after Friday's verdict was returned by a jury in the federal district court of Judge M. M. Joyce, were waiting Saturday to be taken to federal prisons to begin serving life terms.

Barker, gang coleader and accused as one of the actual kidnapers, may be sent to the Alcatraz island penitentiary for desperate convicts, it was reported.

### ALL CONVICTED UNDER LINDBERGH LAW.

Sentences will be imposed at a later date in the cases of the other three convicted, the federal district attorney's office announced. The trio, who likewise face possible life terms, are John J. (Boss) McLaughlin, former Illinois legislator; Harold Alderton of Bensenville, Ill., and James J. Wilson.

McLaughlin was accused of passing a large portion of the ransom at Chicago banks.

All were convicted under the so-called Lindbergh kidnaping law. The convictions, returned by a jury of nine men and three women, were hailed as a double victory for the government in that it was the first kidnaping case in which those convicted with the conspiracy were found guilty along with actual participants.

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Scheidt  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

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7-576-F1



# EARLY ARREST OF ALVIN KARPIS

Today's Pictures Today  
**Kathleen's Glad** that the jury in the Brem-  
er kidnaping decided her  
father was not guilty. Kathleen Delaney of Chicago is shown  
embracing her father, Philip Delaney, one of the two acquitted  
at St. Paul Friday, while five others were convicted.  
Associated Press Wirephoto



## U. S. to Push Hunt for Karpis; Five Found Guilty

ST. PAUL, Minn., May 18.—(INS)—Federal authorities, having won the conviction of five defendants in the \$200,000 Edward G. Bremer kidnaping conspiracy, today predicted the early capture of Alvin Karpis, current "Public Enemy No. 1" and most notorious of the Barker-Karpis gang members still at large.

"Search for the remaining fugitives under indictment for the Bremer abduction will be pressed until all are dead or behind penitentiary walls," it was announced at the Department of Justice Bureau of Investigation office here.

Besides Karpis, accused as one of the actual kidnapers of the wealthy St. Paul banker, the principal fugitives are Harry Campbell, who shot his way out of a trap at Atlantic City last winter with Karpis; Dr. Joseph Moran, alleged to have altered the faces and finger prints of gang members, and Volney Davis.

George F. Sullivan, United States attorney, said the government is ready to proceed with the trial of Harry Sawyer, former underworld czar here who was accused as the "finger man" in the kidnaping of Bremer January 17, 1934. Sawyer recently was captured at Pass Christian, Miss.

Arthur "Doc" Barker and Oliver Berg, who were sentenced yesterday, were waiting today to be taken to federal prisons to begin serving life terms.

The convictions were hailed as a double victory in the government's war on kidnaping. It was the first case in which those having a connection with the conspiracy were found guilty along with actual participants.

RE: ALVIN KARPIS, with aliases,  
FUGITIVE, I.O. 1218; ET AL;  
EDWARD GEORGE BREMER - Victim;  
KIDNAPING; HARBORING; OBSTRUCTION  
OF JUSTICE; NATIONAL FIREARMS ACT.

Mr. Nelson  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Nease

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7-576-FI

# BREMER RULING BACKS U. S. IN KIDNAP WAR

ST. PAUL, May 18.—(AP)—Crushing a part of the Barker-Karpis mob through conviction of one of the leaders and four alleged associates, the federal government today made plans to embark upon a roundup of fugitive kidnapers and bank robbers.

Satisfied with the outcome of the trial here of the kidnapers of Edward G. Bremer, J. Edgar Hoover, national chief of the Justice Department's bureau of investigation, informed H. E. Andersen, district chief here, that the federal forces now will concentrate their efforts on the extermination of the gangsters.

## BARKER CONVICTED.

A federal court jury yesterday convicted Arthur ("Doc") Barker, co-leader of the Barker-Alvin Karpis gang; Oliver Berg, Joliet, Ill., penitentiary lifer; John J. McLaughlin and James J. Wilson, Chicago, and Harold Alderton, Bensenville, Ill., of conspiracy in the kidnaping in January, 1934, of Bremer, St. Paul banker. The jury acquitted Edward Vidler and Philip Delaney, Chicago.

Barker and Berg were sentenced to life imprisonment. Sentences of the other three convicted, along with the punishment for Byron Bolton, Chicago, and Elmer Farmer, Bensenville, who pleaded guilty, was deferred.

## KARPIS CHIEF QUARRY.

Heading the list of gangsters sought especially for complicity in the \$200,000 Bremer kidnaping is Alvin Karpis, the nation's No. 1 outlaw. Others sought are Harry Campbell, who with Karpis escaped a federal trap of gunfire in Atlantic City last January; Volney Davis, who escaped from federal agents at Yorkville, Ill.; William Weaver, former convict and alleged active participant in the banker's kidnaping; Willis Harrison, former tavern keeper of Hammond, Ind.; Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Chicago physician who allegedly performed operations to obliterate the fingerprints of Karpis, "Doc" Barker, Freddie Barker (now deceased), Harrison, Davis and Campbell.

Harry Sawyer, St. Paul, named as the "finger man" in the case, is in the county jail here awaiting trial. He is expected to be arraigned in about two weeks.

Mr. Nathan .....
Mr. Tolson .....
Mr. Baughman .....
Chief Clerk .....
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Mr. Keith .....
Mr. Lester .....
Mr. Quinn .....
Mr. Scheidt .....
Mr. Schiller .....
Mr. Smith .....
Mr. Tamm .....
Mr. Tracy .....
Miss Gandy .....

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THE CHICAGO AMERICAN

MAY 18 1935

## U. S. TO ROUND UP KIDNAPERS AND BANK ROBBERS

### Karpis 'No. 1' Outlaw on Agents' List of Fugi- tive Criminals.

St. Paul, Minn., May 18.—(P)—Crushing a part of the Barker-Karpis mob through conviction of one of the leaders and four associates, the federal government today made plans to embark upon a roundup of fugitive kidnapers and bank robbers.

Satisfied with the outcome of the trial here of the kidnapers of Edward G. Bremer, J. Edgar Hoover, national chief of the justice department's bureau of investigation, informed H. E. Andersen, district chief here, that the federal forces now will concentrate their efforts on extermination of both fugitive kidnapers and bank robbers.

#### Five Convicted in Bremer Trial.

A federal court jury yesterday convicted Arthur ("Doc") Barker, co-leader of the Barker-Karpis gang; Oliver Berg, Joliet, Ill., penitentiary lifer; John J. ("Boss") McLaughlin and James J. Wilson, Chicago, and Harold Alderton, Bensenville, Ill., of conspiracy in the kidnaping in January, 1934, of Bremer, St. Paul banker. The jury acquitted Edward Vidler and Philip Delaney, Chicago.

Barker and Berg were sentenced to life imprisonment. Sentences of the other three convicted, along with the punishment for Byron Bolton, Chicago, and Elmer Farmer, Bensenville, who pleaded guilty, was deferred.

#### Karpis Is No. 1 Outlaw.

Heading the list of gangsters sought especially for complicity in the \$200,000 Bremer kidnaping is Alvin Karpis, the nation's No. 1 outlaw. Others sought are Harry Campbell, who with Karpis escaped a federal trap of gunfire in Atlantic City last January; Volney Davis, who escaped from federal agents at Yorkville, Ill.; William Weaver, former convict and alleged active participant in the banker's kidnaping; Willis Harrison, former tavern keeper of Hammond, Ind.; Dr. Joseph P. Moran, Chicago physician, who allegedly performed operations to obliterate the finger prints of Karpis, Barker, Freddie Barker (now deceased), Harrison, Davis and Campbell.

Harry Sawyer, St. Paul, named as the "finger man" in the case, is in the county jail here awaiting trial. He is expected to be arraigned in about two weeks.

Mr. Nathan
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Mr. Schilder
Mr. Smith
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

7-576 Chicago Daily News

MAY 18 1935



# 5 CONVICTED IN CONSPIRACY TO KIDNAP BREMER

## Life Sentence Given Barker.

(Pictures on Back Page.)

St. Paul, Minn., May 17.—[Special.]—Five defendants in the Edward G. Bremer kidnaping case were convicted and two were acquitted by a jury in United States District court here today. Those convicted face maximum sentences of life imprisonment.

Defendants found guilty were "Doc" Barker, Oliver A. Berg, Harold Alderton, John J. [Boss] McLaughlin, and James Wilson.

Not guilty verdicts were returned in favor of William Vidler and Phil Delaney, accused by the government of having had a hand in the changing of the Bremer ransom money.

Deliberate for 20 Hours.

The verdict came after 20 hours of deliberation by the jury. At 11:05 a. m. there was a knock at the jury room door and it was announced a verdict had been reached.

Court attachés and attorneys were called. The marshal's office was told to send to Ramsey county jail for the prisoners. All was in readiness 40 minutes later.

Their verdict was delivered in a tense and hushed courtroom. Then, immediately after the reading, George F. Sullivan, United States district attorney and chief prosecutor, arose and moved that sentence be imposed at once on Barker and Berg.

Judge Matthew M. Joyce sentenced them to life imprisonment in a federal penitentiary—the maximum penalty under the so-called Lindbergh kidnaping law.

Barker and Berg had nothing to say.

### "You Had No Defense."

"You had no defense in this case," Judge Joyce said, first addressing Barker. "You had a fair trial. You were surrounded by all the constitutional protections. Kidnaping is one crime that people of this country will not tolerate. The jury heard all the evidence and found you guilty. Therefore it is the judgment of this court that you be confined in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, or in such other institution as the proper authorities may determine, for the period of your natural life."

Imposing a similar sentence on Berg, Judge Joyce told him:

"The story you told was not believed. It was a fantastic tale by which others of less intelligence than the jurors might have been swayed."

Barker, whose name was first to be read in the list of those found guilty, was charged by the government with having been one of the actual abductors of Bremer.

Berg, who is under sentence of life imprisonment in Illinois, was charged with having arranged places for the gang to hide.

McLaughlin a Money Changer.

McLaughlin, the government charged, was one of the chief money changers, and Harold Alderton kept the house at Bensenville, Ill., where Bremer was held captive.

Wilson, a medical student and associate of Dr. Joseph Moran, a fugitive, had a hand in the gang operations in Chicago after the payment of the ransom.

One of the most complicated criminal cases on record, the trial called for the combined efforts of more than 100 persons—attorneys, department of justice men, criminal experts and witnesses. It was the first case in which the federal government has attempted to convict not only the principals but every one who had any connection with the crime.

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Baughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

### Kidnaped in January, 1934.

"Bremer" was kidnaped in St. Paul Jan. 17, 1934, when returning from taking his daughter to school.

In constant fear for his life, he was held twenty-one days in Bensenville, Ill. His release came upon payment of \$200,000 ransom, the largest ever paid in a kidnap case in the United States.

The first clew to the identity of the kidnapers came the day following the wealthy St. Paul banker's return home. Driving to a spot near Rosemont, Minn., where the ransom was paid by Walter Magee, contact man and friend of the Bremer family, federal agents found four large flashlights used to signal Magee to turn into a side road.

A check of St. Paul stores revealed the flashlights had been purchased from a saleswoman, who identified the purchaser from photographs as Alvin Karpis, one of the leaders of the notorious Karpis-Barker gang.

Meanwhile a farmer near Portage, Wis., discovered four five gallon gasoline cans on a private road near his farm.

The sheriff notified federal author-

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files and the cans went to the bureau of investigation laboratories where investigators found a fingerprint of Barker's.

Investigation revealed numerous members of the Karpis-Barker gang had made St. Paul headquarters from the middle of 1933 until the day Bremer was abducted.

#### Money Appears in Chicago.

Although the investigation revealed new clues, it wasn't until April, 1934, that concrete results were obtained. Then Chicago banks became flooded with Bremer ransom money. One day, after money changing operations had progressed for a week, a teller in the City National bank, Chicago, became suspicious of ten \$10 bills handed him. His questions resulted in the arrest of Vidler.

From Vidler the trail led to McLaughlin, one time Illinois legislator and widely known political figure. With McLaughlin, Philip Delaney, former contractor and restaurant operator, was arrested. They confessed having changed approximately \$60,000 in six days.

With these arrests members of the Karpis-Barker gang fled from Chicago. Wilson, chauffeur for Moran, fled to Denver, surrendered and was returned to Chicago. He testified before the grand jury.

#### Wilson Leads to Berg.

Wilson's arrest led to Berg, who was serving a life term in the Illinois prison at Joliet. In January, 1935, Byron Bolton and Russell "Slim" Gibson were taken by federal men at an apartment in Chicago. Gibson made a break for freedom and federal agents shot him down.

The arrest of Bolton led to Barker, who walked into a machine gun trap in Chicago. Agents then seized Harold Alderton and Elmer Farmer at Bensenville. Bremer was taken to Bensenville and identified the Alderton house.

The government named Fred and

"Doc" Barker, Karpis, Harry Campbell, Willie Weaver, Byron Bolton, Volney Davis, and Fred Goetz as the actual abductors of Bremer. Fred Barker since has been killed by federal agents and Goetz was killed in a gangland fight. Bolton pleaded guilty and the others are fugitives.

#### Indictments Name 22.

Twenty-two persons were indicted in the Bremer case. Of these, eleven went to trial before Judge Matthew M. Joyce in United States District court April 15.

Bolton pleaded guilty. He testified and pinned the kidnaping directly on the Karpis-Barker gang. He is in Ramsey county jail awaiting sentence.

Prosecutors moved for dismissal of M. J. Edna Murray and Jess Doyle. Mrs. Murray was taken back to the Missouri reformatory for women from which she escaped. Jess Doyle was returned to Oklahoma to face trial for bank robbery.

Farmer pleaded guilty, leaving seven defendants—Barker, Berg, McLaughlin, Alderton, Delaney, Vidler, and Wilson.

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[Associated Press Photo.]



[TRIBUNE Photo.]



[Acme Photo.]

**HELD GUILTY IN BREMER KIDNAPING**—Three defendants in trial for kidnaping of Edward G. Bremer, St. Paul banker, who were found guilty in federal court at St. Paul yesterday. Left to right: Arthur "Doc" Barker, gang leader; Oliver Berg, both sentenced to life imprisonment, and Harold Alderton. *(Story on page 1.)*

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**AFTER VERDICT**—John J. "Boss" McLaughlin, Chicago (left), and James J. Wilson, two of five defendants, after being found guilty in Bremer kidnap plot at St. Paul yesterday. They were returned to jail to await sentences.

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